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Bulletin of the American Iris Society

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AIS Bulletin

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The American Iris Society

Officers & Committee Chairpeople

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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Society for Siberian Iris	10.00	25.00	12.00	30.00
Spuria Iris Society	9.00	20.00	12.00	24.00
Society for Japanese Iris	5.00	12.50	6.00	15.50
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Dwarf Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	10.00	24.00	12.00	30.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	13.50	33.50
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President's Message

Jeanne Clay Plank, California

Happy New Year!

The AIS Board of Directors was very busy this fall at their November meeting graciously hosted by the Greater Kansas City Iris Society. The use of electronics to achieve a smoother meeting experience seems to be producing the desired results.

If Board action and direction are any indication, new things are in store for AIS in this coming new year.



Jeanne Clay Plank

- A Members Only page is in the process of being created on the AIS web site and will be in operation early in 2007. This area on the web site will be an added benefit of membership. Information regarding access, use, and member page offerings will be announced as the page develops. One of the site's earliest offerings will be the full color *AIS Bulletin* which, immediately following its release to the post office for mailing, will become available on the Members Only page.
- The 2007 edition of the newly revised *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* will be in the Store Front in time for distribution to all AIS Judges before the Spring Show season is underway. The changes and modifications are significant and wide-ranging. Judges will need to replace their Handbook white pages. The notebook-type covers will remain unchanged.
- Titles used to designate the various categories of AIS Judges have undergone revision to reflect an individual's level/status more accurately. As approved by the AIS Board, henceforth Judges' titles will be: Apprentice (A), Garden/Exhibition (G/E), Senior (S) [formerly Master Active], Retired (R) [formerly Master Retired], Master (M) [formerly Emeritus] and Overseas (OS)
- The AIS will adopt the accepted practice of the horticultural world and cease printing cultivar names in capital letters. Cultivar names will be printed in the *Bulletin* (and other AIS publications) set off by single quotes, ex: 'Sea Power.'
- A new column called "Milestones," appearing for the first time in

this January 2007 *Bulletin*, will devote itself to thumbnail reports on events of interest, such as a significant anniversary milestone of an Affiliate, Region or individual; a noteworthy achievement affecting irises, or the death of a prominent Irisarian.

- The successful Photo Contest chaired by Kitty Loberg received enthusiastic Board support, and a second AIS Photo Contest will be held in 2007. Watch the *AIS Bulletin* as well as the AIS Web page for deadline dates, rules, and regulations pertaining to the contest.
- The Median Iris Society presented a proposal for a new convention award to the Board, which the Board accepted. The award, donated by the Median Iris Society and named the Ben R. Hager Cup, will be presented to the best median observed in the tour gardens during AIS National Spring Conventions. Like the President's Cup and the Franklin Cook Cup, the Ben R. Hager Cup will be a traveling cup and will be selected (by written ballot) by those attending the AIS Convention. The Median Iris Society, to commemorate their 50th Anniversary, plans to inaugurate the Ben R. Hager Cup at the 2007 AIS Spring convention in Oklahoma City, OK.
- Things are on the move in AIS, so be sure to check out the Store Front for some attractive price reductions and "package" offers.

In addition, serious study is being given not only to improving and enhancing the scope of our National Spring Conventions, but also to the practical need to realign or redefine Region boundaries. Be alert to changes that are (or need) to be considered and contribute your thoughts on these vital subjects that effect not only the AIS of today, but especially the AIS of tomorrow.

Be a participant in our organization and together we will move ahead successfully into the New Year. 

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

YEAR 2006 REGISTRATIONS & INTRODUCTIONS

\$10.00 each domestic/\$14.00 each international

(available February/March 2007)

CLASSIC IRISES AND THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO CREATED THEM
by Clarence Mahan. **LIMITED TIME OFFER - \$59.00 domestic/\$67.00**
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Rita Gormley <GormleyGreenery@aol.com>

Editor's Message

Bruce Filardi, Oregon

Hello and Happy New Year to all!

This issue of the *Bulletin* has been immeasurably enriched by the AIS Photo Contest! We have many truly talented photographers among our members, and numerous excellent photos were entered. We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Kitty Loberg, who was the organizer and the energizer of the competition. Thank you, Kitty!

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you to *support our advertisers*. The ads in the *Bulletin* – especially the color ads – help to underwrite the cost of our publication. So please give your business to those who support the *Bulletin*.

As Jeanne Plank mentioned in her President's Message, the Board has decided to adopt more widespread botanical practice, and we will now denote cultivar names as follows: 'Man about Town' instead of MAN ABOUT TOWN; 'Song of Angels' instead of SONG OF ANGELS. Some articles in this issue were, of course, written before this change was made, so the old usage may appear occasionally.

The Board has also determined that we may no longer print pictures of seedlings, so this issue will be the last to include seedling photos.

I would also like to mention that this will be one of my last issues as *Bulletin* Editor. Since the beginning of October, I have given daily consideration to my decision, and I've come to realize that it is time for me to drop out of the public eye, to concentrate on hybridizing and weeding (perhaps not in that order!). My sincere thanks to all those who have supported and encouraged me over the years. 🌿



In September of 2006, Bruce Filardi attempts to spread the "iris bible" to the locals on the sacred Greek island of Delos... but meets with a stony response.

Youth Views

Cheryl Deaton, California

Happy New Year! 2006 was a very eventful year for youth members in AIS, and I hope that 2007 will be just as wonderful. So many things have happened and I am excited by the direction AIS Youth is traveling. I hope you will be just as excited.

Ackerman Essay Contest

The topic this year for the Ackerman Essay Contest is "WHAT I LIKE BEST ABOUT IRISES". Essay Contest Chair, Claire Honkanen, is hoping that this topic will encourage many youth members to enter. This contest is sponsored by the AIS Foundation and there will be two prizes of \$100 each for writers in two categories; ages 12 and under, and ages 13 through 18.

Think about the topic and write down a few things that you like about irises. Is it their colors, patterns, smell, growth habits, varieties? Once you have a few ideas, write some sentences to support your ideas. Be careful! Your essay must be 500 words or less, and I know there are so many things about irises that I like that I could write much more than 500 words! Your essay must be in your own words, but an adult, such as your parents or a teacher can help you check your punctuation and spelling. Double-check everything before you send in your final draft.

All entries are due no later than March 31, 2007. Send your neatly written or typed essay to: Claire Honkanen, PO Box 24, Signal Mountain, TN 37377, or send as an attachment to Claire235@aol.com. Be sure to include your name, address, and birthdate. Winners will be announced at the 2007 AIS National Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and published in a future issue of the *Bulletin*. Best of luck!

Coloring Contest Winners

The overall winner of the 2006 AIS Youth Coloring Contest is 15-year-old Grace Farley of the Lincoln Iris Society. The judges were very impressed with the texture and depth created by the crinkled technique Grace used.



Grace Farley

Please see her winning entry elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations to all the winners: 6 yrs. old and under, Emma Prowell; 7 yrs. old to 9 yrs. old, 1st place – Sarah Green, 2nd place – Mylie Fleenor, 3rd place – Sadie Prowell, Honorable Mention – John Farek; 10yrs. old to 12yrs. old, 1st place – Evelyn Carr, 2nd place – Miriam Winzer, 3rd place – Gus Farek, Honorable Mentions – Leah Winzer, Cameron Bock and Devon Bock; 13yrs. old to 15yrs. old, 1st place – Grace Farley, 2nd place – Zachary Pickett; 16yrs. old to 18yrs. old, 1st place – Victoria Adkins, 2nd place – Mary Claire Elliot, 3rd place – Jessica Clark. In addition, Creativity Awards were given to Sadie Prowell, Mylie Fleenor, Sarah Green, Emma Prowell, Grace Farley, Mary Claire Elliot, Victoria Adkins, and Evelyn Carr. Cash prizes were awarded to all the entrants.

Points of Light Award

Congratulations go out to Spencer Farley, a youth member of Region 21's Lincoln Iris Society. Spencer was instrumental in gathering community support and renovating the NE Family Center Garden. For his efforts, Spencer received the Governor's "Points of Light" Award in November 2006. Way to go Spencer!



Spencer Farley with the Governor of Nebraska at the Points of Light Award ceremony.

New Classroom Iris Projects

Welcome to the fourth grade classes at Robles Elementary School in Tucson, Arizona, whose 69 students are enrolled in Classroom Iris Projects. They are very excited and eager to learn all they can about irises. If you know of a group of students or youth members who would benefit from becoming a Classroom Iris Project, please contact me for more information. We have a variety of crafts, activities and educational information that would benefit many different age groups.

Sad News

On October 1, 2006, the AIS youth program lost a very important person, Henry Wulf. Henry's health had been declining, but he was always enthusiastic about youth and irises. Henry and his wife, Opal, were the Youth Advisors for the Lincoln Iris Society. One of the

requirements for being a youth member in this society is that you hybridize, and Henry was always willing to show youth members how it was done. Together, Henry and Opal encouraged youth members to be active, participating members of their club. I know the Lincoln Iris Society will miss Henry, as will the youth members of AIS.

Reminder about Clarke Cosgrove Deadline

Don't forget that your nominations for the 2006 Clarke Cosgrove Award for Youth Achievement must be postmarked/e-mailed by January 31st, 2007. Your nominations can be forwarded as an attachment to region15kids@hotmail.com, or mailed to Cheryl Deaton, 27218 Walnut Springs Avenue, Canyon Country, CA 91351-3314. All RVPs, Club Presidents, Youth Advisors, and AIS members are encouraged to nominate a deserving youth. Please refer to the October *Bulletin* for the guidelines for this award, or visit the youth website at www.youth-iris.com. Nominees' identities and locations are carefully concealed before being sent to a panel of judges. The winner will receive a trophy and cash award at the AIS National Convention Awards Banquet in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Don't wait until the last minute! Send in those nominations today!

General Youth Fund

AIS has established a General Youth Fund (GYF) for donations to AIS Youth programs. These funds can be used to provide reference books, prizes, materials and even irises to many deserving AIS youth members. The two other youth funds, The Cosgrove Youth Award (CYA) and the Classroom Project Fund (CPF) are restricted to those activities, and their funds cannot be used in any other way. Thanks to all who have donated

to these funds.

Please contact me with any and all suggestions, ideas, or projects that you think may be of interest to the youth of AIS. They are our future, and worth cultivating. Happy Irising! 🌸



Paul Gossett with Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award winner Josh Winzer

International News

Anna & David Cadd, Editors
caddsir@comcast.net

News from France from Chantal Sulmont

The International Tall Bearded Iris Competition, Franciris 2007, organized by the French Society of Irises and Bulbs (SFIB) will take place from May 21 to May 24, 2007, at SFIB's partner Tecomah (School of Environment and Life Enhancement) in the landscaped park in Jouy en Josas (near Paris).

This Competition's second edition received more than a hundred irises from hybridizers all over the world. They were planted in 2005 and have been maintained and pampered by the students of this prestigious school.

A five-member International Jury will determine the winners of this contest in the awarding ceremony on Friday, May 25, 2007. At present, Milan Blazek (CZ) and Stephanie Boot (NZ) have accepted invitations to be members of our jury.

The iris garden will be open to public from May 21, 2007 to June 2, 2007. We hope that many hybridizers will visit us at Jouy en Josas in May of 2007. Anne-Marie Chesnais and her assistants are preparing the schedule for the week of the competition, including a trip to Cayeux's Iris Garden in the middle of the week.

For additional information, contact Chantal Sulmont at <chantalsulmont@wanadoo.fr>.

British Iris Society News **from Clive Russell, President of British Iris Society**

The British Iris Society held its Annual General Meeting on September 9, 2006, at which President Berney Baughen came to the end of his three-year term of office. Membership elected Clive Russell as the new President. *[Ed.: We offer our sincere congratulations to Clive on this great honor.]*

The 85th Anniversary of the British Iris Society will be celebrated in 2007, and the Iris Convention will be held in Canterbury, County of Kent, from May 25 to May 28, 2007. Attendees will visits to three gardens featuring over 550 modern irises. The guest gardens are: Sutton Valence Allotment, Iris of Sissinghurst, and Great Comp Gardens, as well as Sissinghurst Castle National Trust Garden. The registration fee is £140.00 per person. Accommodation is not included.

To book accommodation with breakfast contact Stephen Cresswell,

Medway Leisure Travel, Brecon House, 16 Albion Place, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5DZ; e-mail: <leisure@medwaytravel.co.uk>; or website: www.medwaytravel.co.uk. Further details can be viewed by visiting www.kentiris.org.uk or www.britishirissociety.com. To register for the Convention, contact the websites or contact Berney Baughen, Cooper Beeches, North End Lane, Downe, Orpington, Kent BR6 7HG, England; tel: 01689 853646.

Middle-European Iris Society – MEIS – from Jerzy Wozniak, Poland, President of Polish Iris Society

The International 2007 Iris Convention organized by MEIS will take place from June 1 to June 3, 2007, in Wroclaw, Poland, at the Botanical Garden of Wroclaw University. The cost of the Convention is about \$US35-50 and may be paid in advance or during the Convention. The cost will cover The Convention Dinner, and then later the evening meeting around a bonfire after Iris competition and evaluation. This will also cover the trip to the Botanical Garden in Wojslawice – about 40 miles from Wroclaw.

During the Convention lectures are planned, as well as a visit to the famous, over 200-year-old, Botanical Garden in Wroclaw with its extensive collection of rare plants and one of the biggest collections of iris species in Europe. If enough people wish to participate, arrangements will be made to see the famous Rotunda, where you can see the unique, huge panorama-type painting by three painters from 1893-1894: W Kossak, J. Styka and M. Wywioski. This special Panorama Raclawicka represents the battle between Polish soldiers and Russian Czarist Army; it is the finest and most impressive art of this type in the whole world.



Uljana Blazekova at Pruhonice Garden with spuria seedlings

All interested in attending this Convention are asked to contact Mr. Jerzy Wozniak; ul. Samotna 15; 44-251 Rybnik, Poland; e-mail: <jerzy_wozniak@op.pl>.

from Zdenek Seidl, Czech Republic, President of Czech Iris Society and MEIS Registrar

The Members of MEIS are getting ready for the 2007 Convention in Wroclaw, Poland, and for 2008 in Botanical Garden Prague-Pruhonice. Both conventions will take place in these Botanical Gardens for the first time. We are especially looking forward to Pruhonice Convention, where the iris garden is very famous, thanks to the work of Mr. Milan Blazek.

We also started last year and have continued this year with planting beardless Irises in the Botanical Garden of Ostrava University. It is our first attempt, and we will see if it will be successful. At the University, we have many young people who are interested in growing and hybridizing irises. We have planted beardless Irises of Czech origin. We are going to support this group in the future, because local conditions there are very good for growing Siberian, Spuria and Japanese varieties, as well as varieties of *I. pseudacorus*.

Our members from the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia have registered 22 new cultivars this year. We are looking forward to bloom season and especially to seeing the irises from our new hybridizers.

from Milan Blazek, Czech Republic

The 9th Convention of the Middle European Iris Society /MEIS/ took place in Nitra, Slovakia, from May 19 to May 20, 2006. The host of the Convention was the Botanical Garden of the Agricultural University. The Iris planting and the all cultivation were organized by Mr. Milan Knoll, the director of the garden.

The irises were judged in two categories, seedlings and cultivars:

The top three seedlings were:

1. AM-00/0539-2 (A. Mego, SK)
2. AM-99/0450 (A. Mego, SK)
3. 95-TGRI-2 (Josef Dudek, CZ)

Top three cultivars were:

1. LACY MODELING (L. Muska, SK) – 6 points
- 2 (tie). ORANGE CLOWN (L. Muska, SK) and LONGIN POHAN (Jiri Dudek, CZ)

Russian Iris Society News from Sergey Loktev, President of RIS

In 2006 there were 243 iris varieties registered by 13 hybridizers via RIS. Among them 216 varieties were registered by 10 Russian hybridizers. The Russian Iris Society had 22 judges in 2006. Results of Judges Ballot in 2006:

High Award: not awarded

AM: VELIKOLEPNY (S. Loktev), DZHEGU (V. Koroliov), SHOKOLADNY BATON (V. Gavrilin), and VOZROZHDENIYE CHISTOY VODY (S. Loktev).

Two highest HMs: KUBANSKIY KAZAK and KUBANSKAYA VESNA (both V. Osipenko)

Results of the 15th RIS Symposium:

TBs: 1. COPATONIC (Blyth '95); 2. SANTA (Shoop '98); 3 (tie). BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst '89), DECADENCE (Blyth '04), and QUEEN OF ANGELS (Schreiner '95)

Medians: 1. ZING ME (Blyth '90); 2. BROWN LASSO (Buckles '75); 3. BATIK (Ensminger '86)

Dwarf (SDB + MDB): 1. JAZZAMATAZZ (H. Blyth '86); 2. RINGER (Keppel '97); 3. WEBMASTER (Keppel '97)


Siberians (28-chrom): 1. SHIRLEY POPE (McEwen '79); 2. LADY VANESSA (Hollingworth '86); 3(tie). CAMBRIDGE (Brummitt '67), RUFFLED VELVET (McEwen '73), and STRAWBERRY FAIR (Hollingworth '94)

New Zealand Iris Society News – from Ron Goudswaard, Secretary of New Zealand Iris Society

The New Zealand Iris Society was very active during this last year with various gatherings have already taken place around the country. In April the Southland Group celebrated their 50th anniversary with a formal dinner attended by past and present members. The Bay of Plenty Group has just held their Spring Flower Show and on the 16th December they will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary with a special luncheon. In May the South Canterbury Group held another of their "Winter Seminars". These have been so popular they are almost becoming an institution - two days of celebrating everything iris, talks, debates, sales, and competitions. There was also an iris safari in Nelson in October.

The Annual Convention of the New Zealand Iris Society in 2006 was held in Palmerston North in the lower North Island on November 10 to November 14, 2006. There were three days of irises and garden

visits, and two days of talks, workshops, and catching up with old friends. One of the highlights apart from irises was seeing the giant windmills on the horizon that generate electricity for the country. Another highlight of the Convention was the first-hand presentation about Florence in Italy and the AIS Convention in Portland from our judges who attended those events.


The 2007 NZIS Convention will be in Dunedin on 16th to 20th November 2007, and the following year, back in the North Island, in Gisborne (another great area for Tall Bearded Iris) on 7th - 10th November 2008. And of course we really love to have visitors from overseas come to our conventions and we extend a warm welcome to anybody who can come. 

AIS Insurance

Michelle Snyder, Insurance Chair

For those of you who do not already know, our Liability Insurance is now with a new insurance company. If Certificates of Insurance are needed, I have made it much easier to obtain the needed documents.

To obtain Certificates of Insurance go to www.irises.org/insurance.htm and click on the text Request for Certificates of Insurance. Download the form, complete it as necessary, and fax it to the number shown.

As always, if there are any problems associated with obtaining the needed Certificate, or if you have any questions in general regarding insurance, please contact me at either (928) 282-5867, or my email address of sammygiz@aol.com. 

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AIS Calendar

National Conventions

2007: April 30 – May 5

Oklahoma City, OK

Chair:

F. W. McVicker

Route 3 – Box 10-K

Kingfisher, OK 73750

(405) 375-3115

fwm3115@peoplepc.com

Headquarters:

Oklahoma City Marriott

3233 Northwest Expressway

Oklahoma City, OK 73112

(405) 842-6633

2008: April 14-19

Austin, TX

Chairs:

Jim Landers

710 North 11th

Temple, TX 76501-3016

(254) 773-5017

jimlanders43@hotmail.com

and:

Pat Byrne

(281) 391-6190

patb1@consolidated.net

Headquarters:

Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark

4140 Governor's Row

Austin, TX 78744

(512) 383-2621

2009: May 11-16

Kansas City, MO

Chair:

Debora Hughes

3395 Utah Road

Wellsville, KS 66092

(785) 883-4737

dhughes936@myvine.com

Headquarters:

Doubletree Hotel Overland Park

10100 College Boulevard

Overland Park, KS 66210

(913) 451-6100

Fall Board Meetings

2007: Oct 31 – Nov 2

Raleigh-Durham, NC

Chair:

Susan Grigg

105 Trotters Ridge Road

Raleigh, NC 27614

(919) 870-8345

smgrigg@bellsouth.net

Headquarters:

Hilton Raleigh-Durham

4810 Page Road

RTP, NC 27709

(919) 941-6000

2008: Oct 31 – Nov 2nd

Tulsa, OK


Chair:

Paul W. Gossett

129 East 33rd Place

Tulsa, OK 74105-2542

(918) 742-1204

pwgossett@juno.com 

Section Happenings

Jim Morris, Section Liaison

Be a bobble-head!!

The nine AIS sections as well as our two co-operating societies are wonderful specialty groups that gather together like-minded folks to promote their favorite flower in our iris world. As such they are dependent on dedicated volunteers to do their good deeds. When such volunteers step forward to become officers, editors and committee chairs the membership should do all in their power to support these volunteers. Be a bobble-head. If asked to be on a committee, say yes! If asked to write an article, do so! Better yet, volunteer your services to your officers or write an unsolicited article for your section's bulletin. It will give you a better sense of belonging and will garner you new friends. I guarantee it will.

And how about just saying 'thank you' the next time you meet with or talk to one of these dedicated people running the organization that promotes your favorite flower type. Without these specialty groups much of the iris growth and development we've seen in our lifetime wouldn't be possible or come to fruition. Think about it. The iris pioneers who did so much for AIS and your favorite section are just about all gone now. I know because I have been either writing or arranging for the writing of obituaries almost non-stop for the past three years now. As the overall membership in AIS and all horticulture specialty groups decreases we owe the people who step up to the plate an enormous debt of gratitude.

When I read the section newsletters with their wonderfully diverse articles by a small group of writers, I am often reminded of the time when I edited a business trade magazine and the difficulty I had in getting professional writers to meet deadline when they were being handsomely paid. So the dedication of our unpaid volunteers is vitally important. Tell someone today how much you appreciate what they do for the iris society. Come on, be a bobble-head!

Section News of Interest

In May 2006 the Median Iris Society established the Bennett C. Jones Award for Outstanding Median Hybridizing to be first awarded in 2007. Nomination forms are due each year by November 30 and are available on the MIS website www.medianiris.com.

The Ben R. Hager Cup, for the best median observed in the AIS National Convention tour gardens, was approved by the AIS Board of Directors at the 2006 Fall Board Meeting. This popularity cup will be voted by attendees for the first time at the Spring Convention 2007 in Oklahoma City, OK. Any introduced median (SDB, IB, BB, MTB) **seen on tour** (the same criteria as used for the President's Cup and the Franklin Cook Cup) is eligible. The MIS proposal was the result of two years' worth of MIS committee study and debate. The AIS Board also voted to recognize that other AIS Sections and Cooperating Societies may submit similar requests for consideration. Any organization wishing to do so should coordinate such request via the Section Liaison Consultant.

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris (SPCNI) webmaster Steve Ayala has created a website, www.pacificcoastiris.org, that is a multifaceted display of the PCI world. This site has been recognized as an educational outreach tool by the receipt of a recent Award of Excellence by StudySphere, a national educational resource site. Congratulations.


In the Fall 2006 SPCNI *Almanac*, I was intrigued by Terri Hudson's article concerning finding PCIs in bloom on hillsides in the grit along Highway 1 on the trip from Fort Bragg, CA, to Portland, OR, for the AIS Spring Convention. She and husband Jay did exactly what any irisarian would do – they picked a bouquet, put them in their cooler, and took them to convention for experts to identify. Then in late June she and Jay returned and collected seedpods for the Seed Distribution List. What a neat find.

I'm sure the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) members are wondering when they will receive their 2006 issues of *ROOTS*. I know I am. The Fall 2005 issue was received sometime following the Spring 2006 AIS Convention. The printing on coated stock was well done with excellent pictures in high resolution. Now I am waiting (November 15) to see the promised memorial on Sid DuBose and if Editor Gesine Lohr has had any luck in locating 'Souvenir De Loetitia Michaud.'

The Aril Society International also is without a Newsletter Editor and thus has had but one published in 2006. Pete McGrath did the current issue to recap ASI 2006 events. They are approaching their 50th Anniversary and need a bobble-head to step up.

The Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA) reports that Dennis Kramb has over 1,000 photos of species irises on his site www.badbear.com/signa/signa.pl?Introduction. President Will Plotner is to be commended for his managing of the Siberian/Species Convention that followed the AIS Convention. The SIGNA Newsletter editor Hao Chang resigned effective with the Fall 2006 issue. Plotner said, "She has done an exceptional job" I second his comments. The five-part series of articles on *I. germanica* by Nigel Service, the high resolution 300 dpi pictures – such as the ones showing instability in Florentina – and the general overall quality of the publication will be a "hard act to follow." Time for another bobble-head.

Future Section Conventions

Society for Louisiana Irises, April 13-15, 2007, Lafayette, LA
 Median Iris Society, "Prairie Gold", May 6-7, 2007, Lincoln, NE
 Society for Japanese Irises, June 2008, Kalamazoo, MI
 Siberian/Species, June 2009, Twin Cities Area, MN 

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 Merle Roberts and Marvin Davis

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www.theirisfarm.com

Milestones

Welcome to **Milestones**, a new column devoted to events of some significance to our various affiliate clubs as we intend to print club anniversaries, major club events and abbreviated obituaries on local persons upon their death. It will be up to you as affiliate members to provide us with information about your club activities and people as the *Bulletin* staff will not know about most of the local events and important people that make your club work. This first column will of necessity be primarily obituaries but we really want it to be eventually similar to *Time* Magazine's Milestone listing, albeit on a much smaller scale.


Thomas Allen "T.A." Gilliam (1929 – 2006) – Gilliam, 76, of Huntsville, AL was a 45-year member of AIS and former RVP of Region 24. He was a past president of the Huntsville Iris Club and an AIS Master Judge. A Korean War veteran, T.A. retired from NASA in 1990, where he had worked at the Redstone Arsenal.

Lindley Eric Flanagan, Jr. (1921 – 2006) – Flanagan, 85, of Ft. Worth, TX was a retired executive of LTV including executive director of the LTV Foundation. A graduate of Georgia Tech, Lin also had a MSAE from Texas A&M. He served as an engineering officer in the USN during WWII. Co-founder of the Fort Worth Iris Society, he was an AIS Judge and a director of the Aril Society International. An arilbred iris hybridizer (mainly OGB and OGB-), Lin received 20 HMs starting with 'Dove Song' in 1968. He received two AMs for 'Desert Melody' in 1996 and 'Desert Trumpet' in 1997.

Steve C. Moldovan (1938 – 2006) – Moldovan, 68, of Avon, OH, was a long-time iris, daylily and hosta breeder. In the 1960s the British Iris Society president dubbed his then 12-acre terraced garden as the finest in America. He was the recipient of 26 iris HMs and six AMs for 'Court Ballet' 1963, 'Sterling Silver' 66, 'Irish Lullaby' 68, 'Mulberry Wine' 69, 'Turtledove' 77, and 'Cumquat' in 1979. An Ohio State University horticulture graduate, he taught and presented iris and horticultural programs throughout the United States. With his partner,

Roy Woodhall, he sold daylilies and hostas by mail order and online.

Sidney P. DuBose (1922 – 2006) – DuBose, 84, of Stockton, CA, was a long-time iris and daffodil grower and hybridizer and co-owner of Melrose Gardens with the late Ben Hager. Winner of the 1960 Debaillon Award for 'Amethyst Star' (Louisiana iris) and the 1977 Morgan Award for 'Vi Luhn' (Siberian iris). Recipient of the American Daffodil Society Gold Medal in 2000 for his then 30-year daffodil hybridizing accomplishments. The AIS Foundation is the sole beneficiary of the Sidney P. DuBose Trust, the specific purpose of which is to support an Iris Library, in trust, as a memorial to DuBose and Hager.

Edith H. Wolford (1926 – 2006) – Former AIS First Lady to her husband, past AIS President Leon Wolford from Texas. Edith, 79, was always there in support of his AIS presidency. The 1993 Dykes Medal winner 'Edith Wolford' (86 TB) by Ben Hager was named in her honor. 

Missoula, Montana, Iris Society

Carolyn Addeo, Secretary

The Missoula Iris Society published a 69-page historical booklet in the summer of 2006, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the local Society in Missoula, Montana, and a 25-year celebration of our public display garden at Fort Missoula. The public iris display garden has been maintained by volunteer members for the past 25 years and is an attractive focal point at Fort Missoula for weddings, photographers, and public events.

The booklet, entitled "Fifty Years of Iris Growing, 25 Years of Iris Showing" is for sale for \$5.00 to anyone interested in the long history of the Missoula Iris Society. First organized in 1956 with about ten local ladies, it is now a vibrant, active club of over 60 members. If you are interested in reading about how 20 or so club members first created a public iris display garden in the early 1980s, you may wish to order a copy.

Two copies of the historical booklet have been donated to the AIS Library. Anyone who wants to purchase a copy may send \$5.00 to Missoula Iris Society, c/o Carolyn Addeo, 5805 Helena Drive, Missoula, MT 59803.

How to Register and Introduce an Iris

Anne & Mike Lowe, AIS Registrar/Recorder

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

Registration

1. Write to the AIS Registrar/Recorder, Anne & Mike Lowe, 12219 Zilles Rd., Blackstone, VA 23824, for a registration blank, enclosing check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The Registrar will supply a sample application form upon receipt of a stamped self-addressed envelope or a printable PDF registration form is available for download on www.irises.org in the registrations section. The fee is \$10.00 per registration, or \$10.00 if transferring a name from a previous registration.

2. At the same time, select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year *Check Lists* (beginning 1939) and annual *Registrations and Introductions* booklets (beginning 2000). (www.IrisRegister.com is another resource for checking name availability. Contact John I Jones <jjijones@usjoneses.com>) Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been completed and approved and a certificate of registration returned to you.

3. Names should follow the rules established by the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants. Rules are subject to change, but at the present time the following names will not be permitted:

- a. Names of living persons without their written consent, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.
- b. Personal names containing the following forms of address or their equivalent in another language: Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.
- c. Names including symbols, numerals, non-essential punctuation or abbreviations.
- d. Names beginning with the articles "a" or "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.

- e. Names in Latin or in Latinized form.
- f. Slight variation of a previously registered name.
- g. Names in excess of four words or thirty letters.
- h. Names containing the word "iris" or "flag" or the species name of any recognized species of Iris, or formed wholly by recombining parts of the parental species' names.
- i. Names containing the hybridizer's name in possessive form.
- j. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate (e.g. Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black) or which are composed solely of adjectives which could be construed as a simple description (e.g. Pale Blue, Ruffled).
- k. Names translated from the original language; they should be transliterated as necessary.


4. Previously registered names may be re-used only if (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in the parentage of later registrations, (c) has not been previously re-issued and (d) a statement of permission is obtained from the prior registrant.

5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was not listed as a parent in registrations.

Reserving a name

Names may be reserved for a three-year period by paying a \$10.00 fee for each name desired. Please give alternatives. If it is desired to retain a reserved name past the initial three-year period it must be renewed (for an additional three years) by paying \$10.00 at the end of the third year.

Introduction

Introduction is the offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists, internet offerings and advertisements in the American Iris Society Bulletin are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite of awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for listing on the awards ballot until after it has been recorded as introduced by the Registrar/Recorder. Send the Registrar a copy of your list, catalog, a printed copy of the webpage and the webpage URL or your advertisement, by first class mail, so verification of introduction can be made. 

Winners of the 2006 Photo Contest

by **Kitty Loberg, California**

What fun I've had seeing the entries in this years photo contest!

The photos received were judged by three judges; Ellen Gallagher of Berlin, New Hampshire (Region 1), Editor of The Siberian Iris Newsletter; Glenn Corlew, past RVP of Region 14, Emeritus Judge and avid photographer who resides in Walnut Creek, California; and Kenneth Coleman of Boise, Idaho (Region 11), another avid photographer who has a website, C. Iris on Pond. The photos were numbered without identification of the exhibitor's name and shipped to each of the judges. The judges' scores were combined and tallied to determine the Winners and Runners-up. Each of our winners will receive a newer introduced iris from a Region 13 hybridizer, and the 1st place winners will receive an AIS annual membership or extension.

Ellen Gallagher sent me these comments when the judging was completed: "When Kitty asked me to be one of the three judges for the AIS Photo Contest, I thought that sounded like fun...sure, I would be glad to do it. Little did I know how much difficult work it would entail, mainly because of the volume of photos, but, more importantly, because of the high quality of the photos. We have a lot of fine photographers in AIS and they submitted some of their finest work. All in all, it was a heady job and over 90% (in my estimation) were extraordinarily fine photos. They captured interest, they were exceedingly well presented, and the quality was humbling to this very amateur photographer."

As chairperson of the 2006 contest, I am pleased to announce the winners of the six categories in our 2006 contest. Congratulations to all of our winners and a big thanks to all of our contestants and our judges for making our contest fun and a big success! Because we had so many lovely photos, in addition to our winners, a number of the photos are exhibited as honorable mentions on web sites. Please check out the AIS website for links to the winning and honorable mention photos as well as the Region 14 website. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

2006 Winners

Category: Irises Used in Landscaping:

Winning Entry: "Chasing Rainbows", exhibitor Becky B. Fain of Waynesville, North Carolina.

Runner Up: "Cowabunga", exhibitor Tova Johnson of Centerville, South Dakota.

Category: Irises in the garden:

Winning Entry: "Field of Iris", exhibitor Margie Valenzuela of Oro Valley, Arizona.

Runner Up: "Sue Jo", exhibited by Donald Delmez of St. Charles, Missouri

Category: Irises with a person, or people:

Winning Entry: "Laughing Ladies", exhibited by Lee Whitebay of Ponca City, Oklahoma

Runner Up: "High Chaparral @ Schreiner's", exhibited by Ruthmary Jackson of Hills, Minnesota

Category: Close-up of an iris or irises:

Winning Entry: "Blushing Maiden", exhibited by Sherman J. Sussman of New York, New York

Runner Up: "Red Tessa", exhibited by Terry Aitken of Vancouver, Washington

Category: Photos of events or shows:

Winning Entry: "Fir Tree, Mid America Garden", exhibited by Lowell Baumunk of Littleton, Colorado

Runner Up: "Barn, Cooley's Gardens", exhibited by Lowell Baumunk of Littleton, Colorado


Category: Youth photographer:

Winning Entry: A close-up of an iris exhibited by Aaron P. Skiles of Cuba, New Mexico

Runner Up: A photo of a black iris exhibited by Aaron P. Skiles of Cuba, New Mexico

AIS 2007 Photo Contest!

We will again be doing a photo contest in 2007 under similar rules as before. Full contest rules will be announced in the April AIS *Bulletin*, and before that on the AIS website and some region websites. Our contest deadline will be moved up a bit in order that award rhizomes can be

shipped during the season. We're encouraging photographers to take shots of irises other than just close-ups; irises in a landscaped garden, photos of irisarians we all know so well, and fun photos of events and people as well. If you are using digital cameras, take some of your shots in high resolution, as the lower quality is a detriment when competing with photos from film. Have fun when you're out there in the garden! 

Special Honors

The following special recognitions were
awarded by the Board of the American Iris
Society at the Fall Board Meeting, 2006:

Hybridizer's Medal:

Hal Stahly
Hiroshi Shimizu

Distinguished Service Medal:

J. Hudson
Jim Copeland

Warburton Medal:

Susanne Weber

Book Reviews

Classic Irises and the Men and Women Who Created Them

by Clarence E. Mahan, 2007. Krieger Publishing, 6 1/2 x 9 1/4 inches, 404 pages incl. index, \$87.50

Reviewed by George Waters, Oregon

Gardeners in the United States know British gardens well; they read without difficulty books on gardening in Great Britain, and visit the British Isles to enjoy gardens and the explications of their owners with little conversational inconvenience. There is a tendency therefore to acknowledge British achievements in gardening more readily than those of other European countries. Iris enthusiasts, for example, may be acquainted with the work of Sir Michael Foster and WR Dykes, but less so with that of, say, CG Van Tubergen and F Cayeux. Even the work of some homebred iris champions such as BH Farr and EB Williamson is less well known than it should be. Of gardens and irises in the Far East even less is fully known, as there is no shared alphabet to facilitate study.

Clear to all is that irises are linked in a continuous chain of activity from the early nineteenth century to the present; it winds through France, Germany, Holland, Britain, and the United States, each section adding breadth and color to the flowers. Seed-raised irises were seen to be variable in flower long before the nineteenth century, but the western end of our chain begins when deliberate pollination allowed some control over the character of the resulting flowers.

An extraordinary link in the chain was forged early in the twentieth century in Cornwall, England, with the chance occurrence in an iris of tetraploidy – a multiplication of chromosomes that allows increased size and substance in plants and wider variation in petal color. The phenomenon, embodied in an iris called 'Dominion', had a huge effect on the development of tall bearded garden irises. Tetraploidy may have arisen in more than one place but was exploited most effectively in the United States, where Williamson quickly introduced and bred such remarkable hybrids as 'Lent A. Williamson', 'Dolly Madison', and others. Farr, and Grace Sturtevant, also pioneered the breeding of tetraploid irises.

New roses, rhododendrons, daylilies, irises and many other flowering plants have been launched honoring friends, relatives, and patrons with names ranging from aristocratic and titled French ladies and gentlemen to the humble lads and lasses of working families. As

memories of those people fade, some writers have turned an honest penny among the curious by producing books linking plants to the people they were named for. Iris fanciers also are inclined to wonder about the people long gone connected with their much-loved plants, and Mahan has met their need, but in no ordinary way. His knowledge of irises is encyclopedic, and his research is consummate. He has unearthed details not only of irises, but also of the raisers, their families and connections, social backgrounds and, in some instances, the political climate of their time. In this way the irises themselves assume greater significance and give more pleasure to the gardener. If you, too, are curious about your irises, welcome Clarence Mahan's *Classic Irises and the Men and Women Who Created Them*; it fills gaps in our knowledge with surprising technical and fascinating personal detail, much of it gathered from primary sources and worldwide correspondence assembled over several years of patient study.

Did you know that Caparne's iris 'Ivory' is named for a plastic substance invented in 1866 by the Xylonite Company; that Bliss, raiser of the famous 'Dominion', was a slovenly bachelor *persona non grata* in some iris circles; in Japanese mythology irises have souls that attain Nirvana; that Bertrand Farr, raiser of 'Quaker Maid' and credited with having awakened American gardeners to the beauty of irises, was a piano tuner, music teacher, and music store proprietor before opening his nursery? Stories such as these are meat and drink to Mahan and are generously offered to readers as side dishes to a main course of iris lore in this carefully prepared and superbly written book. It draws us deeply into the world of irises, its oddities, personal feuds, and family connections, so that the beloved flowers in the garden glow anew with unexpected life.

Good color photographs, mostly by Mike Lowe, delightfully framed in the page, illustrate the principal irises. There are old black and white photos of some hybridists, and a few lovely prints and watercolors from museums and the author's own collection. All these and the text are elegantly laid out, printed on fine paper, and bound in a handsome book that is unusually pleasant to handle. It is worth mentioning that *Classic Irises* suffers none of the stiffness that endangers the spines of lesser books by cracking as they are opened: this spine is softly flexible so that open pages lie flat on the table or in hand. The book as well as its contents offers rare pleasures for irisarians and for bibliophiles.

Irises: A Gardener's Encyclopedia

by Claire Austin, Timber Press, 2005.

Reviewed by Tom Karwin, California

If you are focused on tall bearded irises, this book could broaden your horizons. Claire Austin's seminal work on the genus *Iris* can expand awareness of the 270 iris species, enhance appreciation of the more familiar, and stimulate exploration of the relatively rare. This book offers these uplifting experiences in a readable and satisfying manner.

The main part of the book is organized in three parts: bearded irises, beardless irises, and bulbous irises. Of these, the largest part includes chapters on eight groups of bearded irises: tall, border, miniature tall, intermediate, standard dwarf, miniature dwarf, aril and arilbred. The part on beardless irises has chapters on Siberian, *laevigata*, Japanese, Louisiana, Pacific Coast, *spuria*, "other," and interspecies hybrids. The last of these three parts, on bulbous irises, includes *reticulata* irises, Dutch, Spanish and English irises, and *Junos*.


To be sure, this book is encyclopedic but not exhaustive. Ms. Austin notes, "It would take thousands of pages to include just ten percent of known irises. Instead, this book is intended merely as a snapshot of this wonderful genus." The book presents a selective sample of irises, representing the favorites of iris societies, growers and hybridizers; plants that are important to the development of hybrids; and plants that the author "simply could not live without."

Speaking of the images, the book offers much more than snapshots. The photography, mostly by the author, presents fine portraits of the flowers in prime condition. Excellent images accompany almost all of the plant descriptions, with occasional variation of format to provide interest. Taken together, the book's photographs provide an extraordinary compilation of images of numerous species and hybrids, many of which are quite uncommon. The iris enthusiast who has strived to document the peak of bloom of a variety of irises will appreciate the investment of time, patience and expertise required to create these photographs. As a welcome courtesy to the reader, each photograph appears on the same page as the related verbal description, and thus avoids page flipping.

Each chapter begins with descriptions of the species of the group and continues with descriptions of hybrids of the group, listed alphabetically. The descriptions are thoughtful, authoritative, thorough yet brief, and affectionate without excessive praise. Each description is pleasingly fresh: what might have been a relentless slog from one plant to the next is instead a pleasant tour of exemplars of the group.

While the plant descriptions alone would make this book a treasure, it has more to offer. The opening chapter provides concise and useful overviews of "The Plants and Flowers," "Botany and Classification," "About This Book," and "Iris Societies and Awards."

In the final part of the book, the author addresses "Growing Irises in the Garden," "Pests and Diseases," and "Hybridizing and Growing Irises from Seed." These chapters are tightly written, and the last of the three sensibly includes references to more detailed treatments by other authors.

In his foreword, James W. Waddick wrote, "So this is a book to study and dream about." That phrase captures the book's two principal strengths for the iris lover: a reliable source of knowledge and a beautiful flow of inspiring images and ideas. It is an exceptional book indeed that offers both kinds of enhancements, and deserves featured placement in the iris gardener's library. 

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lakesideiris@aol.com Phone 760 378 3841

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NAUGHTY GODDESS (18 62 D) TB 40" EM S. pale yellow gold; F. white, deeper gold at shoulders, 1/8" pale yellow gold rim; beards long, dark yellow, fuzzy pale lavender horns. Deity x Prissy Miss

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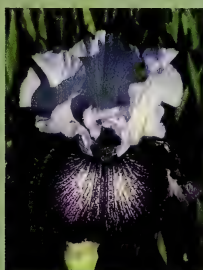
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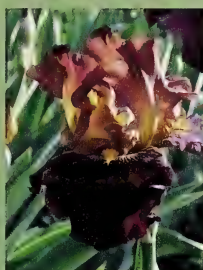
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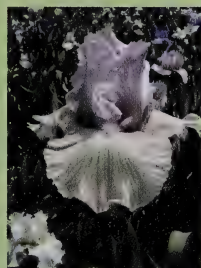
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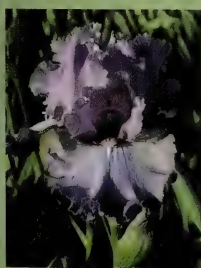


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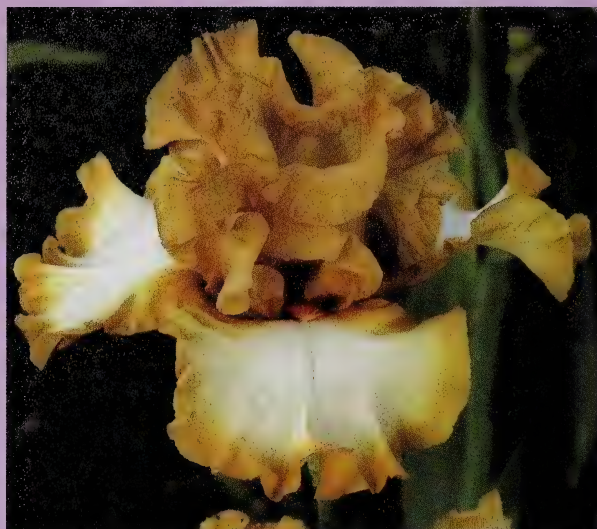


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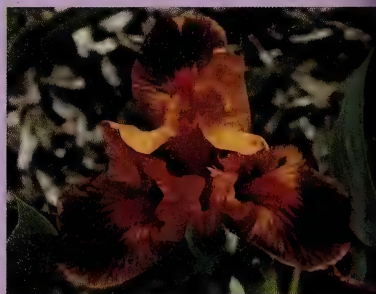
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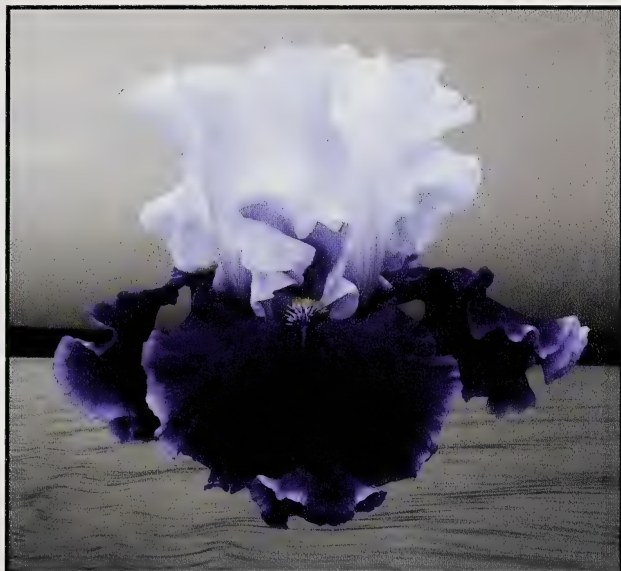
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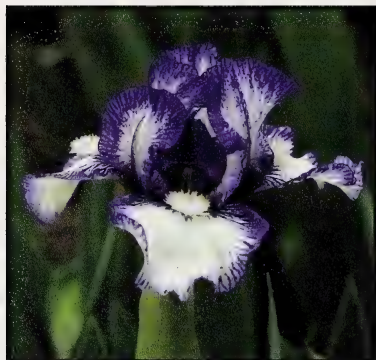


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x *I. aphylla*)) X sibling) \$25

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2006 Seedlings

Riley Probst & Shirely Trio, Missouri/California

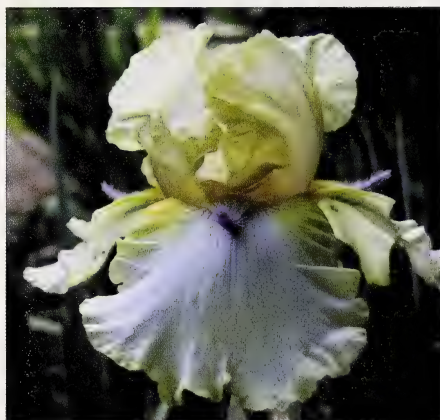
This was a great year for seeing seedlings. Many times we've heard people say: "Oh, I don't pay attention to unnamed seedlings." Named seedlings seem to fare a bit better when it

comes to attention. When asked to do an article on seedlings we thought it would be interesting. We had no idea the new world we were stepping into! Our eyes were opened to the future.

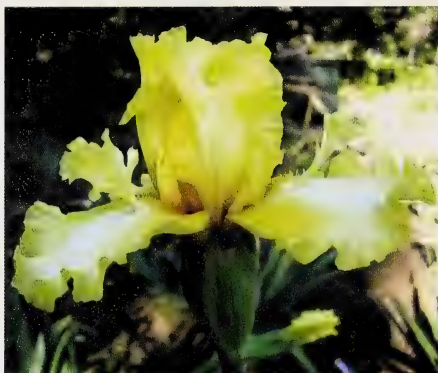
Seedlings were seen at the Region 15 Spring Trek in southern California, the Region 14 Spring Trek in northern California, the Region 18 Spring trek in Wichita, KS, and this was all topped off with the trip to the National Convention in Oregon. We spent a

total of two weeks in Oregon, and we revisited many of the convention gardens, plus had the opportunity to visit gardens that were not on the National trek. This seedling report may take more than one issue of the *AIS Bulletin* to cover all of the promising seedlings that we saw.

Region 15 is both southern California and Arizona – a large area but with very few hybridizers. When visiting the Lauritzen Garden we saw a couple of noteworthy seedlings by Cheryl Deaton. Be sure to watch for number 18-62-D, a TB SA supporting lavender-blue consistent horns and no tucking, drooping or sagging of falls. Very good substance, above the normal bud count, strong stalks and branching. Another of Cheryl's is TB SA MDR-26-1. This flower also has good substance and is able to hold the large flounces without tucking or drooping. The falls are horizontal nicely ruffled.



18-62-D



MDR 26-1

Both of these seedlings are scheduled for introduction and are garden and showbench worthy. Also visited was the Randy Squires' garden. Randy had several noteworthy seedlings. We will cover Randy's seedlings in another issue as we could not locate the slides. We did see a seedling by a very nice young man named Kim Ung. I returned several times from other areas of the garden just to take one more look. Elegant



010101

beauty, clean, good form, good substance, good plant ratio, clean blue-green foliage, good for garden and show bench. The number is 010101. It leads one to think Mr. Ung may be in the computer business. Kim is one of the younger Region 15 members and shows great promise in his hybridizing efforts. We must see more!

Our good friend and well-known iris comedian Pete DeSantis has a seedling that is taller than any other iris I have seen before! Because of its height, we did take a picture with Pete beside this very black and very tall iris. Noted though, was the perfect proportion in relation to height. The buds were huge and numbered 9, the stalks had a slight S curve and moved well in the breeze, had 4:1 ratio, large leaves with clean blue-green foliage. Pete is approximately 5'7"; the iris is equal to Pete's height. Different and unique.

The month of May brought the Region 18 Annual Spring Trek, hosted this year by the Wichita group. Region 18 is made up of Kansas and Missouri, an extremely large Region! An 8-hour drive from St. Louis to Wichita ended with some overcast weather. Since Wichita is in "tornado alley" we wondered if there would be activity as there was two years ago in Region 21 (when one of the guest gardens was blown away only hours after we visited it). Region 18 growers take much pride in their yearly exhibition. The gardens in



Pete DeSantis with seedling



'Glory of Dawn'

this part of the country are always in tiptop shape. Plants are grown well and big; wide paths and no weeds. A very much admired seedling was Larry Lauer's 949-1 (Large flower with absolutely magnificent overlapping falls, beautifully ruffled lavender standards and falls with white central area. Also excellent was a Gerald Richardson creation,

98-50-1 with overlapping falls in deep deep purple violet. Both hybridizers are well-known for their quality work. Mike Greenfield was exhibiting in several gardens his very pretty 'Glory of Dawn' scheduled for release in 2007. We also saw this growing just as well in the guest gardens of Oregon, which has a completely different climate from the central Midwest. We need irises that grow equally well in all climates! Lowell Baumunk had seedling 'King of Light' growing very well in both Region 18 and at the Oregon Convention; it is a large, flared, ruffled, golden self. **OUTSTANDING!!**

After Region 18 came the AIS National Convention in Portland, Oregon. Talk about cold, damp, and wet! We have visited Oregon gardens for 20 years and have never seen this unseasonable cold and wet. Before the convention started we spent a day in the outstanding Terry and Barbara Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden. By the way, the weather was marvelous all 3 times that we visited the Aitken Garden.

Blooming in the Aitken garden was a yummy creation whose garden name was 'Jolly Orange Giant,' seedling 99T26C. It had large well-substantiated flowers with bright orange standards, with same orange rim around pristine white standards. Another we noticed immediately was 99T29: Pink, Pink, Pink, and so ruffled, well worth the wait. While very slowly going down the Aitken



99T26C

rows of irises, each one as good as the next, we began to smell a wonderful carnation perfume. We began to sniff and sniff. Finally we discovered 95T-3, a terracotta rose with a flashing red beard that was broadcasting fragrance several feet away. We lingered for a while just to take deep sniffs of this future intro. When we became light-headed from hyperventilating, we figured it was time to move on. Anton Mego was guesting several of his



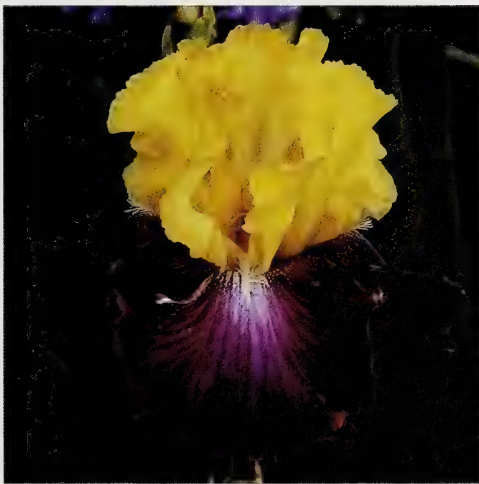
99T29

mouth-watering confections: one in particular that stood out from the rest was 99-0387, a floating cloud in pink and lavender ruffles. Another new hybridizer that some iris people may have met is Bruce Filardi. Bruce has a very large garden bordering the Aitken Garden. A seedling that caught our attention right away was 'Banana Cream Pie': so tempting with the whipped cream standards rimmed with banana cream over banana cream falls. The banana cream pales a bit at the laced and ruffled standards. Our clothes became tighter just looking at the richness.



99-0387

We headed down south to Salem and some of the other gardens. The next closest garden was the 81-year-old family-owned and -operated Schreiner's Gardens, located right next to the freeway. The family moved to Oregon 59 years ago, and has become a landmark. A Schreiner seedling that we liked is 'County Cork.' It is unusual in color and that is what most of us like. Standards are greenish golden brown with scalloped lace all around. Falls are primarily green with a lavender white



11401

blaze extending outward from the bronze beard. Standards and falls are scalloped with some lace. Look for it! Every garden needs something different. While traveling the rows of thousands of Schreiner seedlings, another stood out that has been marked for introduction in the future: LL401. It shows clear, clean, unmarked gold standards with ruby red falls paling to lighter ruby and becoming white at center. The photo says it all. We can't wait for this one!

Across the freeway we drove, to the rhododendron-guarded driveway of the Keppel Garden. Keith states he just could not be on National tour this year due to the tremendous amount of work. The people came in armies anyway, just not 900 in 3 days. The first thing we looked for were the '06 intros, as we do in every garden we visit. We like



99-15-C



067-A

to see the irises growing before we buy! Then we proceeded to the seedling beds. There are many things going on in the Keppel bed: black and white plicatas, white standards black falls, white with black rims. And ohhh the pinks, the yellows, the bicolors, bi-tones and luminatas!! These were only the re-selects. The maiden seedlings were overwhelming in the color combinations, the ruffles, and the improvement in form. Many people say irises have gone as far as they can go; well, those people have not seen the Keppel seedlings! There were several very interesting ones, including future introductions: 99-15-C, a pinkish blue top with blue surrounding a flesh color fall with white center; 00-198-A, sugar-sweet pink creation. Riley

has a soft spot for any luminata, so he found some right away. Keppel seedling 067-A could not be easily overlooked, a neglecta-luminata with very pale lavender standards enclosing apricot style arms with zone around white tangerine tipped beard, falls overlaid red-purple with pale 1/8 inch lavender rim, perfect form. Barry Blyth grows a lot of his things at Keith's. That way he has two growing seasons and can do twice as much as the rest of us!



M65-6

When we first saw 'Decadence' several years ago there were only two plants; we watched it for several years as it increased and thought nothing could match it. Well, now Barry has done it again. We were dizzied by the new 'Decadence' seedling, M65-6, to be called 'Carnival Capers.' The photo is worth a thousand words. Unbelievably beautiful!

We drove on to the Cooley Garden that is just up the road from Keith's. Rick and Kati Ernst were in the garden along with dozens of visitors. Cooley's is the oldest operating iris garden in the USA and was the first commercial iris garden in this area. Roland Cooley broke the first iris ground in Oregon and made way for the rest of the iris growers. This family-run and -operated business has been growing irises for



W112-29

approximately 84 years. Rick Ernst has several exciting lines. Since the 'Wild Jasmine' lines ['Ring around Rosie,' etc.] began several years ago, we are astounded each year by his irises. And the excitement isn't just limited to the flowers! We have seen dark, almost black stalks, the same color on the spathes, not to mention the dark-based



U110-5

standards with a fine rim of almost black purple, but shocking and amazing is the lower 1/4 of the standards, which is black. Never before have we seen standards with the lower part black. The contrast is awesome. [I generally do not use that word because it is overused to death by many people, but there is no other word that so aptly describes this iris!] The falls are also black with a tiny white spear barely jutting down from the gold beard.

This is the most unique iris pattern that we saw this year. It is difficult to find an iris that is *i n s t a n t a n e o u s l y* recognizable; this one is DIFFERENT!

[to be continued] ❧

All photos by Probst/Trio,
except two Deaton seedlings by
J. Lauritzen, Bersillon seedling
by M. Bersillon

leaves. A seedling to watch for is W112-29. Also captivating was Ernst seedling U110-5, an absolute knockout. Nothing drab here.

Guests in this garden included plants by L. Roberts. We had already noticed a number of seedlings by this same hybridizer. The flowers were all unusual. The one that stopped us in our tracks was 3-102A, with white



3-102A (close-up)



3-102A



Trio Seedling: Starring X Midnight Moonlight



Probst MTB sdlg 97MWX29WR



Bersillon Seedling: 0455G



Future Colors in Siberians (Schafer-Sacks Seedlings)



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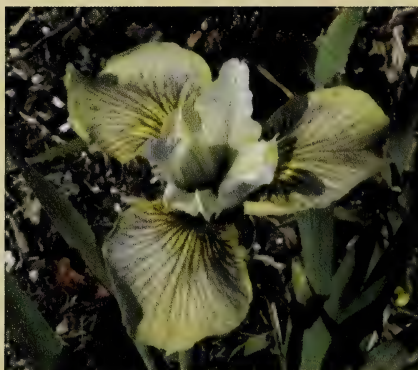
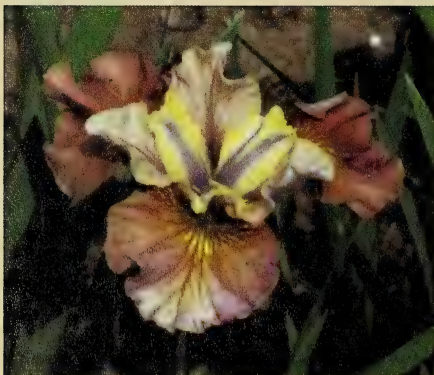
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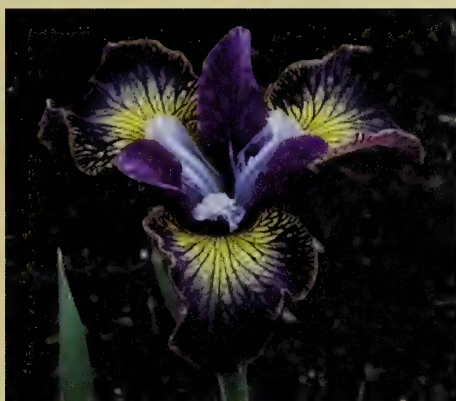
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S02-1-13, S03-28A-12, S02-1-1, S03-46-1, S03-4-1



The Way Ahead:

Further Discussion

George Waters, Oregon

Terry Aitken and Anner Whitehead in their responses to my contribution (Author's Title: "Is There a Future for Bearded Irises in My Garden?") in the October *Bulletin* agree that more attention to disease resistance in irises would be welcome. I am glad of their support. Terry Aitken points out for us the very irises he believes to be most responsible for vulnerability to disease among hybrid bearded irises, and Anner Whitehead, with a generous sprinkling of quotation marks, leaves us musing upon validity, plausibility, and the veneration earned by the elderly. In responding to their contributions I have the opportunity of enlarging on the need for urging the Society's hybridists toward a search for greater robustness. Too many irises are introduced after only a few years of successful flowering in the raiser's garden and in those of friends. So limited a trial in hurried hope of a Dykes Memorial Medal is seldom a reliable test of disease resistance.

Anner Whitehead, while emphasizing the complexity of genetics involved in disease and insect resistance in irises, seems reluctant to accept the inevitability of widespread enfeeblement if breeding for showy flowers continues to be the main concern. In face of the evidence, seen in agricultural regions of this and other countries, of susceptibility to disease among highly bred crops, I find Anner's doubt startling. Monoculture contributes to the problem of infestation, of course, but breeding for heavy crop yields, durability during transport, and attractive or (less often) flavorful fruits, has taken priority over disease resistance, and has encouraged the development of a huge market for pesticides and chemical sprays more alarming to many of us than the pests themselves.

Bob Hollingworth, an iris breeder and professional toxicologist with a special interest in insect control and food safety, illustrated this point to me during a recent conversation with the example of the common potato. Found in Peru as a generally bitter little tuber, its acerbity resulting from protective alkaloids unattractive to insects and toxic to humans, the potato, after many years of breeding and selection,

has become a dietary staple for millions of people throughout the world. This popularity is the result of breeding out the very toxins that protected the potato from insect attack. Loss of resistance factors, by accident or design, in plants is well documented.


In talks on irises Bob makes a point about the risk of lessening disease-resistance in plants bred, generation after generation, for beauty of flower. He reminded me also that rose breeders have turned their attention to disease resistant plants, and, after years of breeding for larger, more colorful flowers, black spot-resistant roses are now advertised. Could not an effort of that kind be encouraged among irisarians to defeat leaf spot? It is now time to discard chemical remedies and take on the more difficult task of equipping the irises themselves with the tools for self-protection. New fungicides are no longer an acceptable response to plant diseases, and the effort of applying them several times a year is not attractive to gardeners.

With examples from agricultural history in mind, it seems to me that only the most complacent of readers can doubt that the insouciance towards disease-resistance evident among AIS members is a disservice to the gardening public and damaging to the Society's reputation.

My own awakening to these matters began with a visit to Kew Gardens, that famous botanical repository in Richmond, England. There, for many years, a spectacular display of modern bearded irises could be seen; it was a mecca for iris loves enjoyed also by many visiting AIS members. The iris beds are, alas, no longer to be found there, having been displaced by less demanding plants.

From those brilliantly colorful iris beds I wandered towards the Wood Museum, a small building within Kew Gardens, enclosed in its own little garden. There I saw 'Lord of June', (Yeld 1911). It had, clearly, been in place for some years; rhizomes formed a solid mat. Despite the dry soil they grew over one another so thickly that weeds could not penetrate. I wondered how iris roots could reach moisture, but there the clump was, full of pale blue flowers on slim, whippy, wind-proof stems. Not all bearded irises should be expected to thrive in such conditions, but the example set by 'Lord of June' could, surely, provide a model for hybridists of the kind of fine, healthy plant that ordinary gardeners could embrace with uninhibited enthusiasm. The many clumps of old irises in farm gardens in the US tell the same story of vigor and disease resistance.

In conclusion, I must say that my original contribution on this subject was not an attack on irises as the footnote implied, but was, as discerning readers readily acknowledge, a cry from the heart of an iris lover who in seeing an apparent decline in the popularity of tall bearded

irises, and an obvious decline in AIS membership, seeks remedies for the situation in hope that the irises he loves may continue into the future as the garden's greatest beauties. 

Additional Comments

Eugene Baxley, Alabama

I read the letter about the seeming lack of concern of "hybridizers" (I prefer to call them breeders because they do not hybridize) to the resistance of their products to bacterial soft rot and leaf spot. I think the letter was on course and much more should be published about the problem.

When breeders incorporate the genes of an iris species (that has existed for hundreds of years in nature) in an environment without exposure to the two pests mentioned above, and if they do not test for the effects caused by these pests, those breeders are derelict. Both of these scourges could be wiped out with proper safeguards in the breeding process. I think that iris breeders do all of the iris community a great service by breeding and introducing new iris, but I believe at the same time that they do us a disservice by breeding out of the iris resistance to disease and pests.

I am much in favor of the establishment of at least four test gardens in the forty-eight contiguous states, with a requirement that all irises be tested before registration. We should phase in restrictions regarding bacterial soft rot and leaf spot without treatment, and not allow introduction of irises which do not meet the criteria. We could regain the genetic resistance to both this way.


I have had iris since 1962 around my home. It was not until I started buying the later introductions, eighties and nineties, that I became acquainted with soft rot and leaf spot. The leaf spot came on some iris I purchased, and the soft rot came from lack of resistance.

Now, concerning judging: I feel that more than half of the judges who vote for Wister and Dykes Medals do not see the object of their votes in the proper number of garden settings. They vote for 'Iris X' because voter A has told them how wonderful 'Iris X' is. Many of the registered judges in my Region are old and do not travel much, yet they vote every year.

When judges vote, they pay little or no attention to the requirements for that vote, and they vote for prettiness or show capability or what Joe Blow told them. Judges who vote the Wister and Dykes Medals should be required to submit sworn statements that they have observed the object of their vote in three gardens, one of which must be outside of their Region, with the name of garden where observed and the date/time of visit.

Most people can predict with pretty good accuracy what iris will be given the Dykes Medal if he/she has contact with many judges who vote. Their conversations and e-mails give them away.

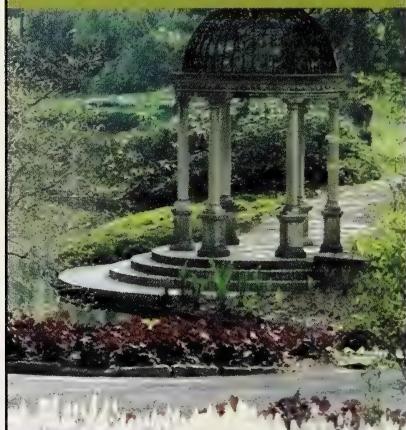
I have been buying Wister and Dykes Medal winners for a few years now, not because I think they are superior, but because they have been around a while and have been tested. Also, they have to be grown over a widespread area and must do well in many parts of the country. I shall continue to buy those irises. Many of the new introductions are prettier, have more blooms, and may have better stems, but they disappear from the garden much sooner.

I have had 'Afternoon Delight' and 'Huckleberry Fudge' for many years, and I feel that they are very good, solid garden irises. I think both are worthy of the Wister and the Dykes Medal. Unfortunately, their time has passed. There are still good irises out there in the Awards process. But judges must exercise good judgment when voting! 



Guest Beds at Mid-America Gardens
Photo: Chilton

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Arrangements at Cooley's for the National Convention

photos: Ginny Spoon





*Cooley's at
National
Convention*



all photos G. Spoon



Aitken's Salmon Creek at National Convention

Right: 'Here Be Dragons'
(Schafer-Sacks)

Next Page Bottom: 'Little John'
(Spoon)

Photos: K. Chilton, G. Spoon









Chad Harris' Garden at National Convention

Photos: K. Chilton

Left: 'Raspberry Slurp'
(versicolor — Butler)

Right: 'Sea Krill' (Spec-X — Copeland)





'Field of Irises'

AIS Photo Contest Winner, Irises in the Garden
Photographer: Margie Valenzuela, Oro Valley, AZ



'Cowabunga'

AIS Photo Contest Runner-Up, Irises Used in Landscaping

Photographer: Tova Johnson, Centerville, SD



'Laughing Ladies'

AIS Photo Contest Winner,
Irises with People or a Person
Photographer: Lee Whitebay,
Ponca City, OK



'A Serious Photographer (with 'High Chaparra'

AIS Photo Contest Runner-Up,
Irises with a Person or People
Photographer: Ruthmary Jackson,
New York, NY



'Sue Jo'

AIS Photo Contest Runner-Up, Photos of Irises in the Garden

Photographer: Donald Delmez, St. Charles, MO

'Red Tessa'

AIS Photo Contest Runner-Up, Close-up of an Iris or Irises

Photographer: Terry Aitken, Vancouver, WA





'A Blushing Maiden'

AIS Photo Contest Winner, Close-up of an Iris or Irises

Photographer: Sherman Sussman, New York, NY

Deductible Contributions to "Qualified Organizations"

Bob Plank, California

The AIS, most of the AIS sections, cooperating societies, and regions, the TBIS, and a growing number of the affiliates are recognized by the IRS as a "qualified organizations." This means that contributions by individuals that itemize tax deductions on Schedule A (Form 1040) are tax deductible on the donor's state and federal income tax returns.

Deductible contributions include donations of cash, things of value, and out-of-pocket expenses incidental to voluntary services in furtherance of the organization's purposes. Up to established limits, deductible expenses may also include the costs of transportation, lodging, and meals while away from home.

For irisarians these deductions may be important. For example, the reasonable and necessary expenses of office, including attendance at board meetings by board members, officers, editors, committee members, affiliate delegates, and all others necessary to conducting the business of a qualified organization are deductible.

Similarly, judges, apprentices, clerks, and show entrants may deduct expenses incident to required activities at AIS sanctioned shows.

Judges are particularly well positioned to claim deductions because of the many requirements imposed to maintain their official status, including growing representative newer irises, traveling to shows and gardens, and attending continuing education classes.

Likewise, the expenses of growing plant material for auction at fundraisers are deductible, as are the expenses of guest garden hosts and planners putting on regional treks.

The monetary value of time for personal services is, alas, not deductible. Nor is the cost of raffle tickets.

Guidelines for deductions are covered in IRS Publication 526, "Charitable Contributions." Generally, a donor can deduct contributions of money or property to a qualified organization, and out-of-pocket expenses when s/he serves as a volunteer. If a donor receives a "benefit" s/he can deduct only the amount that is more than the value of the benefit. For the excess amount to qualify, s/he must pay it with a "donative intent."

Membership fees are deductible for amounts that are more than the value of the benefits received. The rule is disregarded if the annual fee is less than \$75.

The basic rules for claiming expenses incidental to giving services as a volunteer are that they must be (1) unreimbursed, (2) directly connected with the services, (3) expenses the donor had only because of the services, and (4) not personal, living, or family expenses.

Donors can not deduct expenses in attending a convention if they go only as members of an iris-related organization rather than a "chosen representative." They can, however, deduct unreimbursed expenses when performing services during the convention. A chosen representative, however, can deduct unreimbursed expenses for travel and transportation, including a reasonable amount for meals and lodging while away from home overnight in connection with the convention. They can not deduct personal expenses for sightseeing, but can deduct expenses for attending gardens and events directly related to their duties as judges, apprentices, editors, garden writers, photographers, etc.

Special record keeping rules may apply. See IRS publications 526 and 1771 for details. For example, an organization generally must give a written statement if it receives a payment that is more than \$75 and is partly a contribution and partly for goods or services.

Special record keeping rules also apply when claiming single deductions of \$250 or more in the form of unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses for transportation, lodging, and meals away from home. Under such circumstances, IRS Publication 1771, "Charitable Contributions: Substantiation and Disclosure Requirements," provides that the donor must obtain a contemporaneous written acknowledgement from the organization containing a description of the services provided by the donor, a statement of whether or not the organization provided goods or services in return for the contribution, and a description and good faith estimate of the value of goods and services, if any, that an organization provided in return for the contribution. To be "contemporaneous," the acknowledgement must be dated prior to filing the tax return.

An organization can assist a donor by providing a timely, written statement. Better yet, the donor can provide a letter for the signature of an officer of the organization, together with a stamped self-addressed envelope, essentially as follows:

To the Examiner:

This is to certify that ____ served ____ of the American Iris Society (EIN

94-2641312 for AIS, or whatever EIN applies) in the capacity of ____ and ____ and ____ for the tax year _____. To perform these duties, s/he was required to attend and participate in the activities listed below at a (convention, judges training class, etc.) held in ____ during the period ____ to _____. Expenses were not reimbursed. Signed _____, Title _____
Dated _____.

Donors should not attach the acknowledgement to their individual income tax return, but must retain it to substantiate the contribution in the event of audit. Separate contributions of less than \$250 are not aggregated by the IRS for purposes of requiring the acknowledgement. An example of when an acknowledgement is not required could be separate donations to an exempt organization of less than \$250 each, even though the donor's annual total contributions may be \$250 or more.

The two cited IRS publications, 526 and 1771, can be obtained on the internet at www.irs.gov. These official IRS publications and rulings govern.

These guidelines can be elusive. For example, travel-away-from-home expenses can be deducted "only if there is no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation, or vacation in the travel." Then they go on to say, "The deduction for travel expenses will not be denied simply because you enjoy providing services to the charitable organization. Even if you enjoy the trip, you can take a charitable contribution deduction for your travel expenses if you are on duty in a genuine and substantial sense throughout the trip. However, if you have only nominal duties, or if for significant parts of the trip you do not have any duties, you cannot deduct your travel expenses."

But if you are on duty in a genuine and substantial sense during only part of a day, and in the evening you go to the theater, you can claim your travel expenses, but you cannot claim the cost of your evening at the theater.

The lessons to the AIS volunteer and conventioneer are clear: Actively participate "in a genuine and substantial sense." Vie for positions affording "chosen representative" status. Attend board meetings as a director, officer, committee chair, or affiliate delegate. Participate in section meetings. Volunteer for behind-the-scenes support duties. Attend judges' training. Take the tests for credit. Mentor youth during garden tours. Write up gardens for newsletters. Take photos. Use the photos to illustrate presentations. Eschew non-deductible raffles. Instead, contribute with a generous "donative intent" at fundraising auctions and boutiques.

P.S.: And don't forget to keep required records! 

2007 Silent Auction

Oklahoma City, OK

We are holding the Silent Auction again at the AIS Convention in Oklahoma City! That means we need your contributions to ensure the success that we have enjoyed in the past years.

In 1997 for the AIS Convention in Dearborn, Michigan, a group of visionaries spearheaded the idea of a Silent Auction as the first AIS fundraiser. In the years since then, the Silent Auction has contributed over \$60,000 to the benefit of AIS.


The Silent Auction has become a popular part of our conventions, and it is a fun way to raise funds for the support of AIS. Many people have iris treasures they could donate, and it is a great way for hybridizers to get their new introductions seen in different parts of the country. We are looking for iris artifacts, iris books, and new or recent iris introductions. However, if you would like to donate any other irises that are rare or unusual, that would work fine also.

This year's convention is scheduled for April 30-May 5, 2007. Please let us know what you can donate no later than April 2, 2007, so we can prepare the bid sheets. Send a short note to our address below, e-mail us or call. We look forward to hearing from you.

Rita and Tom Gormley

6717 Martha Drive, Cedar Hill, Missouri 63016

(314) 607-1323

<GormleyGreenery@aol.com> 



'Willakenzie Wonder' (SIB-Gorham) at Wildwood Gardens (Plotners)

OKLAHOMA CENTENNIAL 2007

AIS National Convention - Sponsored by the Oklahoma Iris Society
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - April 30 - May 5, 2007

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS: Oklahoma City Marriott, 3233 Northwest
Expressway, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112
Reservations: (405) 842-6633 or (888) 236-2427

Name Region
Address Phone ()
City, State, Zip Email
Attending Spouse or 2nd Person
Youth (s)

Name tags will be made as printed above.

If this is your FIRST AIS Convention, check this box: ☐

Full Registration: Includes Welcome and Awards Banquets and Garden Tours.

Postmarked: By March 1, '07	By April 1, '07	After April 1, '07	
Registrant #1 <input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205	<input type="checkbox"/> \$230	Amount
Registrant #2 <input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205	<input type="checkbox"/> \$230	Amount

Youth 18 and under: Includes same as full registration

No. of Youth _____	\$125	\$125	\$125	Amount
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Garden Tours Only: Includes bus, lunch & convention booklet

Registrant #1 <input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$110	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	Amount
Registrant #2 <input type="checkbox"/> \$95	<input type="checkbox"/> \$110	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	Amount

Banquets Only: No convention booklet or bus.

	Welcome Banquet	Awards Banquet	
Registrant #1	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	Amount
Registrant #2	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	Amount

Please select your choice for the Awards Banquet:

Chicken ☐ Pork Loin ☐

(Sorry, we cannot accept credit cards) **Total Enclosed** \$

Make checks payable to AIS Convention 2007 and send to:

AIS Convention 2007

Betty Lou McMartin, Registrar

8904 NW 80th St.

Oklahoma City, OK 73132-4013

(See next page for additional information)

No optional tours arranged. Check our website www.okiris.org for sight-seeing ideas under "Registration" then "OKC info".

SPECIAL NEEDS: Those requiring special accommodations for persons with disabilities must be received in writing by the AIS Convention Registrar no later than April 1, 2007. If you have special diet requirements, please note on a separate sheet.

GEEK DINNER: Registration for the Geek Dinner should be made to Joanne Prass-Jones, 35572 Linda Dr., Fremont, CA 94536. Email: joanne@usjoneses.com

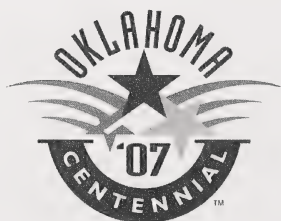
Registrations received after May 1, 2007 will be accepted at the discretion of the registrar.

No refunds for cancellations made after May 1, 2007.

Make checks payable to AIS Convention 2007 and send to:

**AIS Convention 2007
Betty Lou McMartin, Registrar
8904 NW 80th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73132-4013**

**Phone: (405) 728-9839
Email: lulu245@sbcglobal.net**



Approved AIS Judges for 2007

compiled by Judy Keisling, Judges' Training Chair

NOTE: *The designation of judges' titles has changed effective 01-01-07. The new titles are as follows: A = Apprentice; G/E = Garden Exhibition (formerly Garden); S = Senior (formerly Active Master); R = Retired (formerly Retired Master); M = Master (formerly Emeritus); OS = Overseas.*

In action taken at the AIS Fall meeting, the Board also made the following changes to the Judges' Handbook.

Effective January 1, 2007, by definition, a fully accredited AIS judge is currently any approved judge in the following categories: G/E, S, M, and OS. Only fully accredited judges may judge in an accredited show, or present a for-credit judges training course. (A retired judge may not judge in an accredited show, nor may a retired judge present a for-credit judges training course.) In the future retired judges will not be included in the annual Active judge listing published in the Bulletin or found on the web page.

REGION 1

G/E Bruce Bennett
G/E Ruth Bennett
S Lucy G. Burton
S John H. Burton II
G/E Hao Chang
G/E Phillip W. Cook
G/E Paul J. Dostie
S Chandler Fulton
S Elaine Fulton
G/E Ellen M. Gallagher
G/E Ada Godfrey
G/E William Godfrey
R Connie M. Hall
S Dr. Warren C. Hazelton
R Mrs. Warren C. Hazelton
S Lynn F. Markham
G/E Stephanie A. Markham
R Mrs. F. J. McAliece

R Marilyn R. Noyes
Mollicone
S Mrs. Russell B. Moors
S Russell B. Moors
S David Nitka
M William H. Peck
M Mrs. Maurice B. Pope, Jr.
G/E Janet Sacks
S Robert H. Sawyer
G/E Martin Schafer
G/E David Schmieder
M Mrs. David Schmieder
R Robert Sobek
R Richard Sparling
R Shirley A. Varmette
M Kenneth M. Waite
R James R. Welch
G/E Andrew Wheeler
S Deborah Wheeler
S John W. White

S Rebecca Wong
S Peter J. Young
G/E Michael Zuraw

REGION 2

S David Baehre
G/E Joanne Bassett
R James G. Burke
R Ruth C. Burke
A John Colley
G/E Clayton Crandall
G/E Diane Crandall
S Maria Gerbracht
R Kathleen Guest-Shadrack
A Nancy Haley
G/E John W. Heimke
G/E Donna James
G/E Ronald James
G/E Robert A. Keup
G/E Eugene Koschara

G/E Mildred Koschara

G/E Don Lowry

G/E Donna J. Lowry

A Dan Maier

A Joanne Maier

G/E Ella Murphy

G/E Jerry Murphy

G/E Floyd Reitzel

S Wendy K. Roller

A Donald Salhoff

A Patricia Salhoff

G/E Vaughn Sayles

S Dr. Carolyn Schaffner

S Helen B. Schueler

G/E Mary Jane Shanley

G/E Jamie Smith

G/E Janette Smith

G/E Frank Sorbello

G/E Dorothy Stiefel

G/E Judith Tucholski

REGION 3

G/E Ruth Barker

R Walter E. Betzold

G/E Charles Conklin

G/E Joyce Corrin

R George W. Gerhardt

S Harold L. Griffie

G/E R. Dennis Hager

G/E Edmund Jay Holcomb

M Sterling U. Innerst

S Theresa Jewell

S Mrs. R. P. Kegerise

S Jason A. Leader

S Patricia A. Leader

G/E Vincent Lewonski

S Mrs. Arthur F. Martin

S Robert M. McFarland

R Helen Molchan

G/E Joan Roberts

G/E Ken Roberts

R June Roop

S Ronald J. Thomon

REGION 4

G/E Barbara Alexander

G/E David W. Bowen

G/E Pat Bowen

G/E Randell Bowen

S Libby A. Cross

G/E Glenna de Quoy

M E. Roy Epperson

R Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr.

G/E Ruth Brown Holbrook

A June Hood

G/E L. Bruce Hornstein

A Karen Jones

A Ramon Jones

R Charlotte J. Kabler

R Nancy Karriker

G/E Daniel Laing

G/E Kristen Laing

G/E Linda Laing

G/E Michael Lockatell

S Anne Lowe

S Mike Lowe

M Clarence E. Mahan

A Anita Moran

G/E Bill Mull

R Dr. Joseph B. Parker,
Jr.

G/E Bea Rogers

A John Rosini

G/E Donald W. Rude

A Jim Schroetter

G/E Merrick E. Shawe

G/E William C. Smoot

G/E Donald M. Spoon

G/E Virginia Spoon

S Katharine M. Steele

G/E Frances Thrash

G/E David L. Traylor

R Mrs. James H. Trent

M Carol Warner

R Dennis A. Wilkie

G/E Carrie Winter

G/E Joan R. Wood

REGION 5

G/E Mary T. Bolton

G/E Brenda P. Briley

G/E R. Lee Byous

R Janice Chesnik

G/E Ken Duke

G/E Marshall L. Goforth

S Carolyn R. Hawkins

R Jean House

R Mrs. Grady Kennedy

G/E Sue Kilgore

S Mrs. A. J. Kirby

G/E Doris L. Lewallen

M Rev. E. L. Lineberger

S Michael Moller

R Mrs. Edward L. Paquet

G/E Steve Smart

S Mrs. Wayne C. Smith, Jr.

S Wayne C. Smith, Jr.

S Mrs. Robert L. Terpening

S Robert L. Terpening

G/E Joyce Thrift

R Harry Turner

G/E Janet Watson

S Joe Scott Watson

A Jeanette White

S Fredericka R. Wilson

G/E Donna Wolford

G/E Harry Wolford

S Earnest Yearwood

REGION 6

S Robert A. Bauer

G/E Dr. Charles A. Bunnell

S Ann A. Cline

S John A. Coble

R Mrs. Harold E. Cooper

S James A. Copeland

S Jill Copeland

R Doris M. Dehaan

A Kathleen Devlin

S Rolla L. Eich

G/E Phyllis Ann Epperson

R Dr. James J. Foreman

G/E Sheila F. Gardner

G/E Frances G. Holecek
 G/E Rose J. Holecek
 S R. M. Hollingworth
 S Rae J. Johnson
 R Virginia Maynard
 A Inge Mesik
 S Anna Mae Miller
 M Lynda Miller
 S Roger Miller
 R David C. Mohr
 S Kathy J. Moore
 S Nona Moore
 S Carol Morgan
 G/E Jody Nolin
 R Jack E. Norrick
 G/E Charles Rumbaugh
 R Mrs. Harold Slessman
 G/E Donald R. Sorenson
 M Dr. Harold L. Stahly
 R Marjorie Starkey
 S Fred L. Taylor
 R Eugene D. Tremmel
 R Joan H. Verwilt
 G/E Cliff Wilde
 A Janet L. Wilke
 A Diana Williams
 M Anthony Willott
 M Mrs. Anthony Willott
 S Doris Winton
 G/E Lana Wolfe
 G/E Joyce Wozniak

REGION 7

G/E Mrs. Marie Towles Atkins
 S Sue Ann Barnes
 S James M. Bingham
 S Eleanor M. Boyson
 S Larry R. Browning
 S Linda Browning
 S Betty Burch
 S Carol Burch
 S James G. Burch
 G/E Badger H. Carney
 G/E Carol Ann Carney
 M Hilda Crick

A Hilda T. Dunaway
 G/E Susan Egbert
 S James L. Ennenga
 R Dr. Frank B. Galyon
 S Gwen Godwin
 G/E Darnell Hester
 R Lois Hill
 S Mrs. Arvid Honkanen
 R Evelyn G. Irwin
 R Glenna Johnson
 S Mrs. Donald R. King
 A Annette Milch
 G/E Caroline S. Nave
 S Jerry Phillips
 S Mrs. Jerry Phillips
 A Burk Renner
 S June F. Richards
 G/E Deborah J. Harris
 Royal
 G/E Earnest L. Royal
 S Gary D. Sides
 A Elizabeth Stone
 G/E Robert L. Strohman
 S Willa Swack
 G/E Hugh Thurman
 G/E Mary Thurman
 G/E Evan L. Underwood
 G/E James Van Hook
 G/E John P. Van Hook
 G/E Lessie Van Hook
 R Maynard D. Van Horn
 R Mrs. Maynard D.
 Van Horn

A Marilyn Vernon
 R William W. Vines
 R Mrs. W. C. Wilder
 G/E Betty Wilkerson
 M Phillip A. Williams
 S James H. Wilson
 G/E Janet L. Wilson
 G/E Caroline Winters
 G/E Chuck Winters

REGION 8

S Melvin Bausch

S Mrs. Melvin Bausch
 M Joan Cooper
 S W. E. Doehne
 R Mrs. Leroy Duvall
 S M. Lynne Fell
 R Mrs. DuWayne Giefer
 R Patrick R. Hemmer
 R Mrs. David Hempel
 G/E Charlotte Holte
 R Edwin W. Kelsey
 R Dr. Donald Koza
 G/E Barbara Sautner
 A John Sautner
 R Mildred Stover
 S Jack Worel

REGION 9

R Donovan Albers
 G/E Norma Bennett
 S Margaret G. Bensen
 G/E John L. Bilski
 S Mrs. Orville Dickhaut
 S Orville Dickhaut
 G/E Richard C. Funk
 G/E Anne Hamblin
 G/E Dale L. Hamblin
 G/E Patrick Hayden
 S Cathy Simon Hendrickson
 G/E Jeanette Hensley
 G/E Ann Henson
 G/E Ernie Henson
 R Mrs. Karl F. Jensen
 G/E Margaret J. Kelly
 G/E Cynthia Kermode
 S Susan E. Leeper
 S Mrs. Roland J. Meyer
 G/E Larry Miller
 G/E Mrs. Larry Miller
 G/E Nancy E. Pocklington
 S George S. Poole
 S C.J. Simon
 S Mrs. C. J. Simon
 S Leslie J. Smith
 A Anita Stephens
 G/E Mark Timko

G/E Nancy Simon Timko
 M D. Steve Varner
 S Jerry Wilhoit
 S Melody Wilhoit

REGION 10

R Mrs. C. W. Arny, Jr.
 S Dorman Haymon
 S Dr. Bernard H.
 McSparrin
 S Rusty McSparrin
 G/E Joe Musacchia
 S Mrs. Hubert Rena

REGION 11

G/E Jayme Adams
 S Eileen Allison
 R Ken Baier
 R Rose Mary Baier
 R Donald Chadd
 G/E Gary W. Clark
 G/E Carol L. Coleman
 A Kenneth Coleman
 G/E Louisa Cone
 G/E Cindy Davis
 G/E Irene DeRose
 G/E Janet G. DeRousse
 G/E Jeanette Graham
 R Mrs. R. W. Gray
 G/E Erling Gustafson
 R Robert L. Jensen
 A Dianne Kline
 G/E Diane Kukesh
 G/E Roger Muir
 G/E James Sadler
 S Alverta Symes
 G/E Sharon Touchstone
 G/E Angelique Violette
 G/E Lynn Weger

REGION 12

G/E Susan Boyce
 G/E Charlotte Brennard
 R Charlotte T. Easter
 A Lynn Hess

G/E B. Brad Kasperek
 G/E Kathie Kasperek
 G/E Joan R. McFadden
 G/E Thomas J. Miller
 S Suzanne Parry
 S Cathy Hagen Reed
 G/E Leon Robertson
 R Robert O. Sorensen
 R Mrs. Merlin Tams
 S DeRay Taylor
 R Keith H. Wagstaff
 S Jeffrey L. Walters
 G/E L. Val Wilson

REGION 13

S Ellen Abrego
 S Thomas Abrego
 M Barbara Aitken
 M Terry Aitken
 G/E Louise Allison
 G/E Phyllis M. Barnett
 S Paul W. Black
 A Ann Booth
 G/E Dwayne A. Booth
 S Carole Breedlove
 S Dr. Alan D. Brooks
 S James R. Browne
 G/E Caroline Burke
 G/E Rita E. Butler
 G/E Deborah A. Cole
 R Mrs. Joe Del Judge
 S Joanne Mentz Derr
 G/E Vicki K. Dudley
 G/E Arnold W. Ferguson
 G/E Bruce Filardi
 S Frank J. Foster
 S Debra Gillespie
 S Chad Harris
 S Fran Hawk
 G/E Tom Johnson
 M Bennett C. Jones
 M Keith Keppel
 G/E Carla Lankow
 S George F. Lankow
 S John W. Ludi

R Duane Meek
 R Joyce Meek
 G/E Beverly Petrak
 G/E Tracy Plotner
 G/E William E. Plotner
 G/E Nancy Price
 M Lorena M. Reid
 A Philip Remare
 S Gerald L. Richardson
 S Bill Rinehart
 R Jayne Ritchie
 S David Schreiner
 S Ray Schreiner
 S Doris E. Shinn
 S David Silverberg
 S Marky D. Smith
 G/E Denise Stewart
 G/E Patti Wenham
 A Darlene Wheeler
 A Bob Williamson
 A Sandra Williamson
 M Jean G. Witt
 S Debby Zook

REGION 14

G/E James Begley
 G/E Art Bern
 G/E Ross Bevier
 G/E Helen Bliven
 S Carl H. Boswell
 R Mrs. Carl H. Boswell
 G/E Kathy Braaten
 R Bob Brooks
 G/E Anna Cadd
 G/E David Cadd
 S Mrs. Mark Condo
 G/E Bruce R. G. Connell
 M Glenn F. Corlew
 G/E Betty A. Coyle
 G/E Christine Dickinson
 G/E Mrs. William H. Fink
 G/E William H. Fink
 A Betty Ford
 A Mary Lee Fortner
 A Paul Fortner

M Joseph J. Ghio
 R Gigi Hall
 R Marilyn Holloway
 S Berkley Hunt
 S Barry Ivens
 G/E John I. Jones
 S Frederick J. Kerr
 R Virginia Keyser
 S Richard Lauer
 R Evelyn Lemire
 S Kitty Loberg
 G/E Marc Loberg
 G/E Sandra Mann
 R Maryann Manning
 S Ed Matheny, III
 R Hal Mattos
 G/E Joanne McGrew
 M Mrs. William Messick
 S Alleah B. Middling
 R Jean Near
 R Roger R. Nelson
 G/E Lorraine Nicholson
 R Mrs. John D. O'Brien
 R Capt. M.C. Osborne
 S Fred C. Parvin
 G/E John M. Pesek III
 S Jeanne Clay Plank
 G/E Joanne Prass-Jones
 G/E Joyce Ragle
 S Lucile Ray
 A Jean Richter
 R Alan D. Robbins
 S George H. Sutton
 S Margaret Sutton
 G/E Michael Sutton
 S Richard Tasco
 R Mrs. Sven I. Thoolen
 G/E Hiromi Uyeda
 G/E Dorlene Waite
 M Dr. John H. Weiler
 S Barbara Whitely
 S James Whitely
 G/E Lynn Williams
 R Bryce Williamson
 G/E Ronald Wolberg

R Vernon Wood
 G/E Mary Ann Worth

REGION 15

S Irene Benton
 G/E Joyce Bertram
 G/E Jill Bonino
 A Carole Buchhelm
 G/E Peggy Carpenter
 R Thelma H. Carrington
 R Hazel E. Carson
 G/E Kathy Chilton
 R Luella Danielson
 A Steve Davis
 G/E Cheryl Deaton
 G/E Francelle Edwards
 G/E Eileen Fiumara
 G/E Derry Gerald
 G/E Jim Giles
 R Doris K. Hale
 R Mrs. Herbert C. Holk
 S Michael O. Howard
 S James H. Jones
 S Ardi Kary
 G/E Marjorie Larson
 G/E Perri Larson
 S Lynn McIlwain
 R Judith Mogil
 S Dr. Edward Murray
 A Kristen Nelson
 S Joella R. Olson
 G/E Patrick Orr
 M Mrs. Edward Owen
 G/E Jane C. Parks
 G/E Marilyn Pecoraro
 G/E Avery Poling
 G/E Joyce Poling
 S James Puckett
 G/E John H. Reinschmidt
 R D. L. Shepard
 R Mrs. D. L. Shepard
 G/E Gerald C. Snyder
 G/E Hilward Stenson
 G/E Winona Stevenson
 S Jane G. Troutman

S Jack Weber
 R Verona Wiekhorst
 R Warren Wiekhorst
 S John Wight

REGION 16

A Kate Brewitt
 G/E Chuck Chapman
 A Sylvia Chapman
 A Eleanor Hutchison
 A Emily Ives
 G/E Raymond Ives
 A Terrance Laurin
 R Verna Laurin
 G/E Maureen Mark
 R Daniel P. McMillen
 S Gloria McMillen
 R James McMillen
 G/E Ken Viner

REGION 17

G/E E. A. Addington
 G/E Alene Arnold
 G/E Dr. L. M. Begley
 G/E Dawn K. Boyer
 A Annette Brown
 S Dana Brown
 G/E Vernon Brown
 G/E Pat Byrne
 M Marie Caillet
 R Billie G. Corbell
 R Mrs. Dee Davis
 G/E Rosemary English
 G/E Connie Ford
 S Gordon Green
 R Hazel M. Haik
 S Nona Hoecker
 S Mrs. Charles A. Howard
 S Jim Keefe
 S Mrs. Vernon H. Keesee
 G/E Helen Kinnamon
 G/E David Lamb
 S Peggy Lamb
 G/E Jim Landers
 R Mary Jane McCreary

S Bonnie Nichols
 S Hooker Nichols
 R William K. Patton
 G/E Dell S. Perry
 G/E Mrs. John Phillips
 R Sam Reece
 S Patsy L. Rosen
 S Keith A. Smith
 S Debra Strauss
 A Stephanie Strauss
 S Mary Wilber

REGION 18

R Mrs. L. E. Anderson
 G/E Patricia Ardisonne
 R Mrs. August
 Bellagamba
 S Harry J. Boyd
 R Mrs. Harry J. Boyd
 R Mrs. James Lee Chism
 G/E Jon Marc Cliburn
 S Donald Delmez
 A Joseph DeVous
 A Karen M. DeVous
 G/E Judy Eckhoff
 G/E Barbara Fouts
 G/E Rita Gormley
 G/E Nichole Grzeskowiak
 R Mike Hargrove
 S Jim Hedgecock
 S Calvin H. Helsley
 G/E Doris Hessee
 G/E Virginia Hill
 G/E Jerry Hoke
 G/E Nyla Hughes
 R Vince Italian
 S Audrey Judy
 S Dan C. Judy
 G/E Judy Keisling
 S Joan Kellar
 R Mrs. Edwin W. Knight
 G/E Doris J. Loveland
 R Betty Langston Macon
 G/E Carol D. Moore
 G/E Kevin J. Morley

M James W. Morris
 M Mrs. James W. Morris
 S James Murrain
 G/E Carolyn Needham
 G/E Barbara Nicodemus
 M O. D. Niswonger
 S Robert Pries
 S Riley Probst
 R James Rasmussen
 R Helen E. Reynolds
 R Elvan E. Roderick
 R Mrs. Elvan E. Roderick
 G/E Kendal Rohr
 G/E Cindy Rust
 G/E Stephanie Rust
 G/E Barbara Schuette
 R Mrs. Stephen Stevens
 S Stephen Stevens
 A Len Suchy
 S Eric Tankesley-Clarke
 S Robert Tankesley-Clarke
 G/E Mike Theissen
 G/E Shirley Trio
 G/E Dennis VanLanduyt
 S James Waddick
 G/E Clancy Walz
 R George W. Warner, Jr.
 G/E Adrian Wills
 G/E Naida Wills
 G/E James Winzer
 G/E Laurie Winzer
 R Annabelle Wiseman

REGION 19

R Raymond Blicharz
 G/E Catherine Button
 G/E Chun Fan
 G/E Margaret Griner
 G/E Martha Ann Griner
 R Dr. Norman H. Noe
 R C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 R Mrs. C. B. Reeves, Jr.
 G/E Gary D. Slagle II
 S Nancy Szmuriga

G/E Mary R. Townsend

REGION 20

G/E Martha Artzberger
 G/E Lowell Baumunk III
 G/E Stephen Blecher
 R Duane W. Daily
 S Kayellen R. Daily
 S Linda M. Doty-Nystrom
 S Carol Eacker
 S Russell Eacker
 A Elsie Funk
 A Sally Funk
 M Catherine Long Gates
 S Dennis B. Gates
 A Glenn Guenterberg
 R Mrs. Morris James
 R Carl Jorgensen
 R Roy G. Krug
 G/E Lynda D. Love
 S Thomas L. Magee
 R Suzanne McCarthy
 G/E Ellen McIntosh
 S David G. Miller
 S Patricia Morgan
 S Betty Roberts
 A Grace Syme
 A Robert Van Liere

REGION 21

R Mickey S. Anson
 R Aredeth J. Bailey
 R Marian Burleigh
 G/E Lee Charlton
 G/E Paula Charlton
 R C. T. Claussen
 R Signey Claussen
 M Allan G. Ensminger
 R Mary Ferguson
 R Vincent Fox
 S Charles C. Hemmer
 S Michael C. Hemmer
 S Mrs. Charles C. Hemmer
 R Lester Hildenbrandt
 S Marjorie A. Jansen

G/E Arnold Koekkoek
 G/E Christa Kohout
 S Richard Kohout
 S Carolyn D. Lingenfelter
 S Roger P. Mazur
 S LeRoy Meininger
 G/E Leland H. Nelson
 G/E Neal E. Pohlman
 R Mrs. Kempton Settle
 A Robin Shadlow
 S Tim Stanek
 R Mrs. Robert D. Steele
 G/E Jean M. Sturtevant
 G/E Connie Vanecek
 G/E Dorothy Ver Hey
 G/E Gary E. White
 S Opal Wulf

REGION 22

G/E Ann D. Barrows
 G/E Linda Bell
 A Michael A. Blake
 G/E James B. Bledsoe
 S Doris Boyles
 S Louise Carson
 A Gregory D. Cary
 G/E Peggy J. Chumley
 G/E Maureen Corder
 S C. A. Cromwell
 S Mrs. C. Wayne Drumm
 S Perry Dyer
 R Mrs. Howard Estes
 G/E M. D. Faith
 G/E Ramona French
 G/E Carol Goldsberry
 S Paul W. Gossett
 G/E June P. Hardy
 G/E Elsie Harrow
 R Rilla M. Hickerson
 G/E Greer Holland
 G/E Mary Ann Holman
 S La Vera Johnson
 S Helen Jones
 G/E Nancy Kowalchuk
 S Betty Lou McMartin

G/E F. W. McVicker
 G/E Peggy Meekins
 R Leonard J. Michel
 G/E Jo Ann Minter
 R Richard E. Morgan
 M Ronald Mullin
 G/E Bettie M. Nash
 M Perry L. Parrish
 G/E Lyle Reininger
 S James W. Russell
 S Marthella Shoemake
 S Aline Smith
 A Monte Stahl
 R L. D. Stayer
 R Mrs. L. D. Stayer
 S Mrs. Philip Stonecipher
 S Philip Stonecipher
 G/E Hugh Stout
 G/E Robert Treadway
 G/E Beatrice A. Williams
 S Lillian C. Williams
 G/E Joshua Winzer

REGION 23

S Karen Bergamo
 S Mrs. Milton J. Clauser
 G/E Ann Colwell
 G/E Helen K. Crotty
 A Frances Day
 G/E Henry J. Day
 S Phil Doonan
 G/E Alverton Elliott
 G/E Patricia J. Feather
 G/E Ken Fladager
 G/E Clifton Frosch
 S Doug Goodnight
 G/E Dr. Scott Jordan
 G/E Reita Jordan
 G/E Pam Lackey
 G/E Pegi Naranjo
 S Maxine Perkins
 G/E Patricia Randall
 G/E James Reilly
 G/E Cindy H. Rivera
 R Mrs. Howard Shockey

G/E Mrs. Pei-Lin Tien
 S Mrs. Walter C. White

REGION 24

R Sue Anderson
 R Margaret Connally
 G/E Scott W. Grant
 S Clara B. Henderson
 R J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 S Joe M. Langdon
 S Mrs. Joe M. Langdon
 S Walter A. Moores
 S Edith Mitchell Nevels
 S Donald R. Saxton
 S Mrs. Donald R. Saxton
 R Sarah Scruggs
 M Mrs. R. P. VanValkenburgh

OVERSEAS

OS Barry Blyth
 OS Graeme Grosvenor
 OS Bernard Pryor
 OS Heather Pryor
 OS John C. Taylor
 OS Willy Hublau
 OS C. E. C. Bartlett
 OS John C. Russell
 OS Jérôme Boulon
 OS Gisela Dathe
 OS Tomas Tamberg
 OS Rainer Zeh
 OS Anne Barbeti
 OS Augusto Bianco
 OS Margaret Cameron Longo
 OS Valeria Pallesi Romoli
 OS Valeria Roselli
 OS Doralisa Ravenni Santi
 OS Akira Horinaka
 OS Hiroshi Shimizu



2007 AIS Symposium Results

compiled by Gerry Snyder, Symposium Chair

R2006	R2007	CULTIVAR	VOTES	HYBRIDIZER	YEAR	SEASON	HEIGHT	COLOR
1	1	DUSKY CHALLENGER	424	Schreiner	86	M-L	39"	dark purple
4	2	SILVERADO	307	Schreiner	87	M	38"	light silver blue
5	3	STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN	285	L. Lauer	93	E-M	40"	off wht. S./med. blf
2	4	JESSE'S SONG	282	B. Williamson	83	M	36"	wht. & violet plicata
3	4	CONJURATION	282	M. Byers	89	M-L	36"	wht. & violet wht. Horns
6	6	THORNBIRD	270	M. Byers	89	M	35"	ecru tan vio. horns
8	7	CELEBRATION SONG	258	Schreiner	93	E-M-L	37"	apricot-pink S. blue-lavender falls
23	8	SEA POWER	248	K. Keppel	99	M	38"	ruffled blue
10	9	BEFORE THE STORM	239	S. Innerst	89	M	36"	near black
17	10	QUEEN'S CIRCLE	221	F. Kerr	0	ML	32"	white, blue border on F
7	11	BEVERLY SILLS	217	B. Hager	79	M	36"	pink
12	12	SPLASHACATA	211	R. Tasco	98	M	35"	purple on white dotted plicata
11	13	STEPPING OUT	210	Schreiner	64	M-L	38"	wht. & violet plicata
21	14	GOLDEN PANTHER	205	R. Tasco	'00	M	34"	gold/bronze
13	15	LADY FRIEND	203	J. Ghio	81	VE-E	38"	garnet red
25	16	HAPPENSTANCE	200	K. Keppel	0	M	37"	pink
9	17	YAQUINA BLUE	199	Schreiner	92	M	37"	medium blue
16	18	HELLO DARKNESS	192	Schreiner	93	E-M	37"	purple black
22	19	HONKY TONK BLUES	191	Schreiner	88	M	37"	hyacinth blue
27	20	IMMORTALITY	190	L. Zurbrigg	84	M&Re	30"	white
14	21	MESMERIZER	185	M. Byers	91	M	36"	white/white flounces
19	22	EDITH WOLFORD	183	B. Hager	86	M	40"	yellow S.; blue- violet F
24	23	CLARENCE	180	L. Zurbrigg	91	M&Re	35"	white S; lt. blue
15	24	VANITY	177	B. Hager	75	E-L	36"	pink
35	25	WORLD PREMIER	172	Schreiner	98	ML	37"	blue white S, dk. blue violet F w white rim
18	26	TITAN'S GLORY	166	Schreiner	81	E-M	37"	dark violet
20	27	SKATING PARTY	159	L. Gaulter	83	M-L	40"	white
26	28	CROWNED HEADS	157	K. Keppel	97	M	38"	wistaria S, lt. blue F
33	29	SONG OF NORWAY	155	W. Luihn	79	M-L	38"	powder blue
30	30	STARRING	154	J. Ghio	0	ML	33"	white S; purp. black F
28	31	LACED COTTON	147	Schreiner	80	M-L	34"	white
31	32	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	146	D. Niswonger	87	M	33"	pink & apricot
31	33	MARY FRANCES	143	L. Gaulter	72	M	38"	blue-orchid
42	34	POEM OF ECSTASY	134	B. Hager	97	M	36"	peach pink S, deep lavender F
48	35	DIABOLIQUE	131	Schreiner	97	ML	38"	garnet purple
34	36	VICTORIA FALLS	130	Schreiner	77	E-L	40"	blue; wht. spot on F
36	37	RUSTLER	127	K. Keppel	88	M	37"	gold-brown
29	38	SUPREME SULTAN	122	Schreiner	88	M-L	40"	yellow S; crimson F

R2006	R2007	CULTIVAR	VOTES	HYBRIDIZER	YEAR	SEASON	HEIGHT	COLOR
40	39	SUPERSTITION	120	Schreiner	77	M	36"	maroon black
	40	PAUL BLACK	117	T. Johnson	'03	ML	42"	dark purple, orange bd.
39	40	ACOMA	117	T. Magee	90	E	30"	pale blue/violet plicata
37	42	JURASSIC PARK	116	L. Lauer	95	EM	36"	yellow S. purple F
45	43	GOING MY WAY	115	J. Gibson	72	M	37"	wht. & violet plicata
41	44	BRIDE'S HALO	114	H. Mohr	73	E-L	36"	white edged yellow
43	45	STARSHIP ENTERPRISE	110	Schreiner	99	ML	36"	white S; cream F w magenta band
59	45	FOGBOUND	110	K. Keppel	98	M	40"	soft blue S, white F
37	47	BREAKERS	108	Schreiner	86	M	36"	medium blue
	48	DRAMA QUEEN	105	K. Keppel	'03	EM	38"	cyclamen / capucine plicata
57	48	CITY LIGHTS	105	M. Dunn	91	M	37"	blue/white spot on F
53	50	TOM JOHNSON	103	P. Black	96	E	35"	dark purple, red orange beards
60	50	DEVONSHIRE CREAM	103	G. Sutton	99	ML-VL	37"	cream white
74	52	DAUGHTER OF STARS	101	D. Spoon	'00	EM & RE	35"	purple w white edge
45	53	JOYCE TERRY	100	T. Muhlestein	74	M-L	38"	yellow & wht. yellow edge
85	54	HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS	98	R. Duncan	0	M	32"	deep purple black, white spray
49	55	GAY PARASOL	97	Schreiner	74	M	35"	lav. wht/rose violet
62	55	SKY HOOKS	97	M. Osborne	80	M	36"	soft yellow; violet horns
53	57	GYPSY ROMANCE	96	Schreiner	94	M-L	37"	violet raspberry
51	58	ROMANTIC EVENING	94	J. Ghio	96	EL	36"	lilac S, dk red- purple F
56	58	RARE TREAT	94	Schreiner	87	E-M	34"	blue & white plicata
74	60	BEWILDERBEAST	93	B. Kasperek	95	M	30"	mauve streaked silver
63	61	SWINGTOWN	91	Schreiner	96	L	36"	mulberry claret
43	62	POND LILY	90	Ev. Jones	95	M	38"	violet blended pink
78	62	MYSTIQUE	90	J. Ghio	75	E-L	36"	lt. blue S; dk blue F
52	64	AFTERNOON DELIGHT	88	R. Ernst	85	M	40"	tan-gold/ maroon
72	64	COPPER CLASSIC	88	E. Roderick	75	L	30"	burnt orange
74	66	BOYSENBERRY	87	L. Lauer	97	EM	37"	creamy yellow S, lavender F w lt rim
87	66	UNCLE CHARLIE	87	D. Spoon	97	ML	34"	pale lavender blue
89	68	MY GINNY	86	D. Spoon	'00	ML	30"	pink, purplish border on F
95	68	KITTY KAY	86	K. Keppel	'02	ML	37"	ruffled pink
53	70	DAZZLING GOLD	85	D.C. Anderson	81	M	29"	yell. veined brown
63	70	EVERYTHING PLUS	85	D. Niswonger	84	M	34"	blue-wht. & violet plic
80	72	RING AROUND ROSIE	84	R. Ernst	'00	M	35"	white sanded purple, yellow rim
45	73	FANCY WOMAN	82	K. Keppel	95	VE-EM	38"	lilac purple luminata
57	73	EPICENTER	82	J. Ghio	94	EM	42"	black cherry S, salmon F edged black cherry

R2006	R2007	CULTIVAR	VOTES	HYBRIDIZER	YEAR	SEASON	HEIGHT	COLOR
72	75	TIGER HONEY	81	B. Kasperek	94	EM	38"	butterscotch-caramel w/ wht. & yel. streaks
60	76	MILLENNIUM FALCON	80	B. Kasperek	0	M	38"	blue bitone w. white streaks
65	77	CAMELOT ROSE	78	C. Tompkins	65	M-L	30"	lilac/burgundy
70	77	OWYHEE DESERT	78	L. Pinkston	97	ML	36"	white S; rusty F w white rays, rim
	79	CRACKLING CALDERA	77	J. T.Aitken	'03	ML	33"	S orange, F yellow w orange rim
67	79	HEARTSTRING STRUMMER	77	B. Johnson	'01	ML	40"	S wht w lavender edges, F med violet, darker edges
92	79	CHASING RAINBOWS	77	B. Hager	98	M	32"	peach S, buff/lavender/blue blend F
86	82	MIDNIGHT OIL	74	K. Keppel	98	M	36"	darker than eggplant
	83	SLOVAK PRINCE	73	A. Mego	'03	M	33"	S orchid w gold rim, Fdk purple w white zone
66	83	CODICIL	73	S. Innerst	85	M-L	32"	lt. blue/black beard
68	83	SWEET MUSETTE	73	Schreiner	86	M-L	37"	flamingo/rose
49	86	BOOGIE WOOGIE	72	H. Nichols	93	M-L	36"	wht. S/E cloudy/violet
68	86	LOCAL COLOR	72	K. Keppel	96	M	40"	dk. violet S, darker F
89	86	BAYBERRY CANDLE	72	C. DeForest	69	M	36"	chart. gold & olive
96	89	VIENNA WALTZ	70	K. Keppel	'00	M-VL	36"	milky orchid
98	89	BRAZILIAN HOLIDAY	70	Schreiner	97	ML	36"	lavender white S, plum F
87	91	RINGO	68	G. Shoop	79	M	38"	white/grape edge
70	92	PERSIAN BERRY	67	L. Gaulter	77	M	35"	mulberry-lavender
78	92	SPICED TIGER	67	B. Kasperek	96	EM	31"	tan S; mahog F. wh. Streaks
92	94	HUCKLEBERRY FUDGE	66	J. Gibson	97	M	35"	S brown, F white/brown plic
	95	AMARILLO FRILLS	65	B. Hager/Cooleys	'02	EM	37"	Laced yellow self
	95	OCELOT	65	J. Ghio	98	EM	36"	Speach, F maroon
82	95	BABBLING BROOK	65	K. Keppel	66	M	38"	light blue
89	95	CLASSIC LOOK	65	Schreiner	92	E-M	36"	white w blue marks
	99	GOT MILK	64	J. T. Aitken	'02	ML	40"	White Self
82	99	QUEEN IN CALICO	64	J. Gibson	80	M	34"	apricot/red violet plic

New to the list: PAUL BLACK, DRAMA QUEEN, CRACKLING CALDERA, SLOVAK PRINCE, AMARILLO FRILLS, OCELOT, GOT MILK

Runners-up: PENNY LANE (63), BLACK TIE AFFAIR (62), WINTRY SKY (62), FIERY TEMPER (59), CORAL POINT (58), KEEPING UP APPEARANCES (57)

Dropped from the list: BLACK TIE AFFAIR, KILT LILT, TOTAL RECALL, DYNAMITE, CORDOBA, MERLOT, SEAKIST 

Treasurer's Report

For the Year Ended September 30, 2006

Assets and Restricted/Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Cash, Money Market Funds, and Certificates of Deposit	\$141,740
Restricted Life Membership Investments	<u>\$134,833</u>
Total Assets	\$276,573

Restricted Funds:

General Youth Fund	\$560
Insurance Fund	\$0
Clair Barr Library Fund	\$1,695
Electronic Services Fund	\$15,705
Publication Fund	\$150
Cosgrove Memorial Youth Fund	\$7,682
AIS Library Fund	\$2,468
Scientific & Scholarship Fund	\$0
Classroom Iris Project (CIP) Fund	\$3,486
Life Membership Dues Fund	<u>\$135,468</u>

Total Restricted Funds	\$167,214
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$109,359</u>
Total Restricted and Unrestricted Funds	\$276,573

Beginning Assets & Fund Balances 9-30-05	\$249,879
Excess of Income over Expenses (Unrestricted and Restricted Funds)	<u>\$26,694</u>
Ending Assets & Fund Balances 9-30-06	\$276,573

Income and Expenses

Unrestricted Fund Income

Royalty Income	\$162
Affiliate Fees	\$2,150
Bulletin Advertising	\$12,821
Bulletin Donation	\$50

Committee Income	\$9,700
Earned Interest/Dividends	\$8,078
Membership Dues Income	\$85,697
Registration Fees	\$8,520
Silent Auction	\$11,342
Storefront Sales	\$20,193
Unrestricted Donations	<u>\$3,465</u>
Unrestricted Fund Income	\$162,178

Unrestricted Fund Expenses

Bank Fees	\$221
Bulletin Expense	\$77,278
Committee Expenses	\$15,602
General Secretary	\$775
Insurance	\$7,552
Membership	\$20,990
Photo Contest	\$105
Professional Fees	\$1,440
Registrar/Recorder	\$3,697
Storefront	\$18,899
Treasurer	\$102
Other	<u>\$11</u>
Unrestricted Fund Expenses	<u>\$146,672</u>
Excess Unrestricted Income Over Expenses	\$15,506

Restricted Funds Income

General Youth Fund	\$560
Insurance Fund	\$12,975
Clair Barr Library Fund	\$0
Electronic Services Fund	\$5,521
Publication Fund	\$0
Cosgrove Memorial Youth Fund	\$350
AIS Library Fund	\$2,409
Scientific & Scholarship Fund	\$1,025
Classroom Iris Project (CIP) Fund	\$525
Life Membership Dues Fund	<u>\$7,348</u>
Restricted Funds Income	\$30,713

Restricted Funds Expense

General Youth Fund	\$0
Insurance Fund	\$14,575
Clair Barr Library Fund	\$0
Electronic Services Fund	\$556
Publication Fund	\$0
Cosgrove Memorial Youth Fund	\$545
AIS Library Fund	\$944
Scientific & Scholarship Fund	\$1,025
Classroom Iris Project (CIP) Fund	\$0
Life Member Dues Fund	<u>\$1,880</u>
Restricted Funds Expense	<u>\$19,525</u>
Excess Restricted Funds Income Over Expenses	\$11,188
Excess Unrestricted Fund Income Over Expenses	\$15,506
Excess Restricted Funds Income Over Expenses	<u>\$11,188</u>
Total Unrestricted & Restricted Funds	\$26,694
Income Over Expenses	

Please direct any questions to Jill Bonino, Treasurer at
aistreas@earthlink.net. ☞



Conventioners at Collier's Garden

2006 Show Summary


Jim Giles, AIS Exhibition Chair

I would first like to thank everyone for their support and understanding as Janet and I were learning the tasks of this job. I am still in awe of Roy Epperson who did the job of Exhibition Chair, Awards and Ballots, Judges Training Handbook committee and the position of 1st Vice President -- all at the same time!

The affiliates of the AIS produced 165 approved shows in 2006. Among those, eight shows were cancelled due to the weather not cooperating with the growing of iris. There was one Exhibition Only show by a newer affiliate in Prescott, AZ.

'Conjuration' was awarded the Best Specimen of the show at four shows, winning the Nelson Award for 2006. The following iris were awarded Best Specimen at two shows: 'Acadian Miss,' 'Dusky Challenger,' 'Goldkist,' 'Lady Laree,' 'Lenten Prayer,' 'Silverado' and 'That's All Folks.'

Tall Bearded iris were judged Best Specimen in 96 shows, Intermediate and Japanese each received 12 Bests, and Medians showed up third with six.

We would like to thank the Show Chairs of all the shows for taking on the job of Show Chair, it is not an easy job to do; but the shows are one of the best ways to get out and reach the public and introduce them to the Wonderful World of Iris. So thank you all for your hard work. 

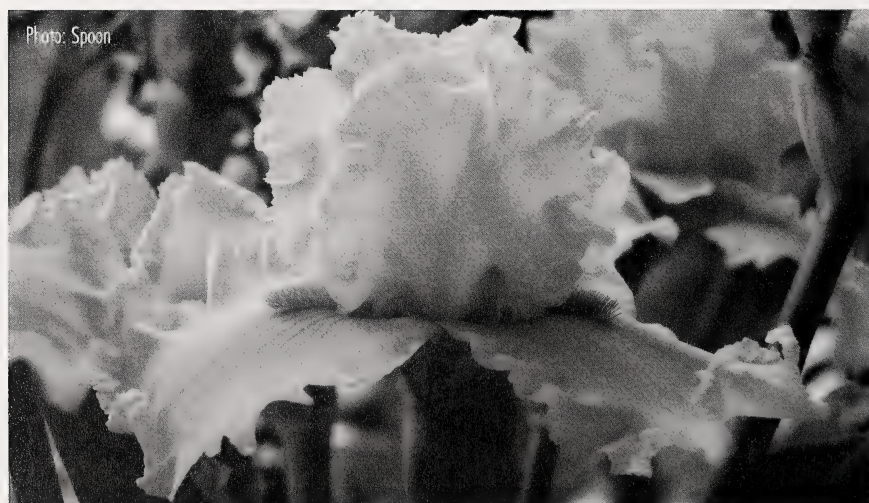
AIS 2005 Exhibition Report

Date	Place	Type	Best Specimen	Exhibitor	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Number
Region 1							
6/10	Auburn ME	Spec	Dovav Tet	R Sawyer	T Whites	P Dostie	06-146
7/15	Auburn ME	JI	Double First	R Sawyer	R Sawyer	S Whitney	06-147
6/4	Shelburne Falls MA	TB	Chinook Winds	N Gluck	S Smith	D Wheeler	06-148
Region 2							
5/13	Colonie NY	IB	Rare Edition	T Slone	R Keup	F Sorbello	06-082
6/3	Pulaski NY	TB	Exactitude	T Kelley	C & D Crandall	J Smith	06-103
7/1	Pulaski NY	JI	Galatea Marx	D James	D James	J Smith	06-104
6/3	Buffalo NY	TB	Wishful Thinking	D Baehre	G Eisonhardt	F Reitzel	06-109
6/4	Poughkeepsie NY	TB	Passion For Pink	B Keup	B Keup	J & E Murphy	06-110
6/11	Ithaca NY	Spec	Appointer	V Sayles	D Stiefel	M Horak	06-153
7/2	West Seneca NY	JI	Miss Buffalo	M Gerbracht	A Rettig	J Tucholski	06-164
Region 3							
5/20	York PA	TB	Goldkist	H Holcomb	J Leader	S Innerst	06-089
5/6	York PA	IB	Sonoran Sands	L Hornstein	C A Meyer	B Hornstein	06-094
5/14	Wilmington DE	TB	Blaze of Glory	J Corrin	J Corrin	B Butler	06-116
5/21	Wilmington DE	MTB	Ozark Sky	J Mahoney	N/A	N/A	06-117
6/18	Dover DE	JI	Sue Jo	J Corrin	D Hager	J Corrin	06-118
6/24	Camp Hill PA	JI	Rose Adagio	J Bury	H Griffie	J Bury	06-161
Region 4							
5/5	Charlotte NC	TB	Polish Princess	C Warner	R Bowen	K Steele	06-027
5/13	Spotsylvania VA	TB	Private Treasure	L Rose	L Rose	D Chyz	06-047
5/13	Vienna VA	SIB	White Amber	V Walezak	V Walezak	V Spoon	06-050
10/21	Vienna VA	IB	I Bless	D Spoon	D Spoon	V Spoon	06-051
5/13	Salisbury MD	TB	Silverado	J Harrington	J Wood	J Harrington	06-067
5/20	Baltimore MD	TB	Country Manor	C Warner	C Warner	B Hornstein	06-076
6/24	Baltimore MD	JI	Popular Demand	F Goethals	B Hornstein	C Warner	06-078
5/13	Norfolk VA	LA	Dixie Deb	W Smoot	J Hamm	M Rogers	06-102
Region 5							
4/9	MacClenny FL	TB	Reincarnation	S Carter	S Seabrook	D Griffin	06-030
5/13	Spartanburg SC	SPU	Custom Design	B & M Jolly	R Bowen	M Goforth	06-086
4/29	Milledgeville GA	TB	High Point	E Yearwood	E Yearwood	J & J Watson	06-127
Region 6							
5/20	Columbus OH	TB	Paul Black	G Schaffer	A & D Williott	B Schaffer	06-057
5/27	Mansfield OH	TB	Swingtown	J Slessman	R Tanner	K Hostetler	06-075
5/27	Grand Rapids MI	TB	Before the Storm	B Redding	L Kwiatkowski	B Redding	06-099
5/28	Ft. Wayne IN	SIB	Careless Sally	B Wendel	B Wendell	D Poling	06-101
5/20	Indianapolis IN	TB	Golden Panther	K Rumbaugh	K Rumbaugh	C Bunnell	06-111
5/21	Muncie IN	TB	Winterfest	W & N Garner	K Kumbaugh	W & N Garner	06-119
6/3	Troy MI	TB	Free Space	B Heilman	A Cline	L Bartell	06-121
6/10	Mio MI	TB	Captain's Joy	K Sorgenfrei	K Sorgenfrei	A Cordes	06-122
5/13	Cleveland OH	IB	Radiant Burst	A Willott	A Willott	D Ciolek	06-137
6/3	Strongsville OH	TB	Vatican Flag	A Willott	A Willott	D & J Fuhrmeyer	06-138
6/3	Portage MI	TB	Conjuration	K Copeland	J Cable	M Holder	06-142

Date	Place	Type	Best Specimen	Exhibitor	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Number
Region 7							
5/13	Nashville TN	TB	Trade Secret	L Austell	L Austell	M & MB Reinke	06-011
5/13	Greenville TN	TB	Like The Wind	B Gosnell	T Bowers	I Lane	06-025
5/5	Dresden TN	LA	Laura Louise	B & C Carney	B & C A Carney	E & D Royal	06-031
5/14	Lexington KY	TB	Purple Magic	Van Hook Family	V H Family	J & J Wilson	06-045
5/7	Murfreesboro TN	TB	Badlands	B Copeland	R & J Watson	O Barnes	06-049
4/29	Germantown TN	TB	Titanic's Nemesis	B & C Carney	B & C A Carney	R Watson	06-055
5/6	Jackson TN	LA	Far & Away	J & B Reinkee	J & B Reinkee	J & R Watson	06-056
5/13	Louisville KY	TB	Silverado	R Smith	J & J Wilson	R Smith	06-061
5/6	Lebanon TN	TB	In Your Dreams	I Turns	I Turns	B Thompson	06-080
5/7	Memphis TN	LA	Dixie Deb	B & J Reinke	B & J Reinke	E Longworth	06-088
5/6	Paris TN	TB	Ring Around Rosie	C & A Harris	C and A Harris	G Lee	06-095
5/13	Bowling Green KY	TB	Lenten Prayer	B Wilkins	R Craft	I Hughes	06-126
5/6	Knoxville TN	TB	Romancer	J & L Van Hook	J & L V Hook	J Ennenga	06-140
Region 8							
6/3	Madison WI	TB	Rosette Wine	J Baker	L Mahrman	J Baker	06-001
5/20	Hales Corners WI	TB	Glacier Sky	E Becker	D Vande	R Keller	06-083
5/20	Hales Corners WI	TB	Cranberry Delight	R Viella	D Vande	R Viella	06-084
6/3	Minneapolis MN	TB	Conjuration	T Moore	B Dougherty	T Moore	06-157
Region 9							
5/20	Urbana IL	TB	Goldkist	L & M Wilborn	J & M Wilhoit	L & M Wilborn	06-079
5/13	Alton IL	TB	Lady Laree	L McTall	L McTall	P Hayden	06-145
5/13	Lisle IL	IB	Red Zinger	M Timko	C Simon	B Reider	06-159
Region 11							
5/20	Nampa ID	TB	Lenten Prayer	C Stevenson	K Gordy		06-066
6/10	Missoula MT	TB	Lullaby of Spring	G Clark	G Clark	E Friesz	06-091
5/6	Victor MT	SDB	Live Coals	B Gray	R Muir	B Gray	06-092
5/7	Boise ID	IB	Maui Moonlight	J Shaber	C & K Coleman	L Bouffard	06-135
Region 12							
5/6	Salt Lake City UT	IB	Calling Card	C Hagan Reed	T & L Miller	F Wheat	06-093
6/2	Logan UT	TB	Lacy Primrose	D DeMars	J Walters	D Taylor	06-125
5/20	Salt Lake City UT	TB	Wedding Dance	F Wheat	T & L Miller	V Wilson	06-158
Region 13							
4/22	Portland OR	JI	Avalanche Express	C Harris	W Plotner	C Harris	06-046
5/7	Silverton OR	IB	Ruby Slippers	C Harris	K Keppel	P Black	06-059
5/13	Bellevue WA	IB	Starwoman	B Williamson	B Williamson	D Cole	06-085
6/3	Puyallup WA	TB	My Forte	M Cross	M Kilborn	I Martin	06-105
5/20	Walla Walla WA	TB	Doctor Dark	S Walker	L Floren	A Johnson	06-115
6/3	Spokane WA	TB	Tomoko	L Melton	L Melton	B Klante	06-123
5/20	Yakima WA	TB	Pond Lily	M Clements	M Clements	D Munroe	06-155
Region 14							
4/22	Freemont CA	IB	Devil May Care	M Kojima	J Jones	R Kraus	06-005
5/13	Santa Rosa CA	TB	Mystic Dragon	A & D Cadd	A & D Cadd	R Bevier	06-008
4/22	Henderson NV	TB	Foreign Legion	H Rusk	H Rusk	O Shick	06-012
4/22	Chico CA	TB	Art Center	C Owen	C Owen	N Groshong	06-021
4/29	Capitola CA	SPU	Flintridge	E LaBorde	L Ayala	J Ghio	06-028
4/22	San Jose CA	PCN	Lash	S McEwan	L Ayala	G Knipe	06-035
5/6	Auburn CA	TB	Sky Hooks	B Brownlee	K Braaten	Yvette Meador	06-036
4/15	Las Vegas NV	TB	Red Rider	P Fortner	P Fortner	L Ray	06-038
4/15	Sacramento CA	PCN	Western Bluebird	P Wilburn	P Wilburn	J Ragle	06-054
4/15	Oakland CA	PCN	Sea Gal	R Grisso	R Grisso	B & J Canning	06-063

Date	Place	Type	Best Specimen	Exhibitor	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Number
4/22	Walnut Creek CA	TB	Los Angeles	B & J Canning	R Grisso	B & J Canning	06-064
5/6	Ukiah CA	Spec	Holden Clough	J McGrew	J McGrew	L Middleton	06-144
Region 15							
4/29	Woodland Hills Ca	TB	Rare Find	M Abrahms	R Squires	M Abrahms	06-014
4/8	Tucson AZ	TB	That's All Folks	K Chilton	K Chilton	K Kartchner	06-023
4/8	Phoenix AZ	TB	Epicenter	F Edwards	F Edwards	H Bradshaw	06-034
4/22	San Diego CA	IB	Promises Promises	J Olson	T Howse	L Vogel	06-052
4/29	Palmdale CA	TB	Momentum	N Jamison	W Stevenson	L Trustman	06-053
4/8	Redlands CA	TB	That's All Folks	K Ung	P & C Buchheim	J Daugherty	06-090
4/29	Costa Mesa CA	TB	Mesmerizer	K Ung	K Ung	L McIlwain	06-097
Region 16							
6/3	Toronto ON	SIB	Halcyon Seas	L Hickey	K Green	K Brewitt	06-160
Region 17							
4/22	Cleburne TX	TB	Ty Blue	G Huddleston	G Huddleston	D & P Cathey	06-002
4/9	Austin TX	LA	Acadian Miss	M Abel	C Gifford	C & S Hensley	06-004
4/23	Dallas TX	LA	Sun and Surf	A Brown	H & B Nichols	A Brown	06-007
4/13	Belton Texas	TB	Pina Colada	J Anderson	J Landers	G Brumfield & G Whitis	06-015
4/15	Waco TX	TB	Pass The Wine	D & P Cathey	G Huddleston	M Lowe	06-020
4/15	Fort Worth TX	TB	Love The Sun	J & D Spears	J & D Spears	G & H Carver	06-024
4/22	Lubbock TX	BB	Orange Pop	R Howard	V & D Brown	R Howard	06-029
4/15	New Braunfels TX	LA	Delta Honey	C Gifford	C Gifford	K Tricsch	06-037
4/22	Odessa TX	BB	Preposition	D Strauss	P Jones	H Null	06-039
4/22	Mt. Pleasant TX	TB	Connection	P Johnston	P Johnston	B Null	06-060
4/8	Midland TX	TB	Eagle's Flight	M Fregia	O Ogle	C Ford	06-065
4/22	Sherman TX	TB	Treasured	A Brown	J Thompson	A Brown	06-069
5/14	Amarillo TX	TB	Moomba	D Boyer	K Mazurek	D Boyer	06-098
Region 18							
4/30	Springfield MO	TB	Heartstring Strummer	J DeWitt-Overbey	W Gideon	C Helsley	06-026
5/6	High Ridge MO	MTB	Astra Girl	T Gormley	J Morris	T Gormley	06-033
5/10	St. Louis MO	MTB	Plum Quirky	R Probst/S Trio	R P Trio	J Morris	06-041
4/23	St. Louis MO	BB	Cranapple	R Probst	J Morris	N Hughes	06-042
5/13	Springfield MO	TB	Conjuration	W Gideon	T Abney	C Helsley	06-044
5/20	St. Joseph MO	MTB	Snow Fiddler	B Hoyt	G Kincaid	S Matthews	06-058
4/30	Wichita KS	TB	Chief John Jolly	L Suchy	K Rohr	P Ardisonne	06-070
5/6	Cape Girardeau MO	TB	Shane Alan	C Hahn	O Niswonger	C Pickett	06-074
5/7	St. Louis MO	TB	Thornbird	J Watters	S T Probst	L McTall	06-100
5/13	Joplin MO	TB	Conjuration	B Chapman	B Knell	B Chapman	06-106
5/6	Kirkwood MO	TB	Society Page	S Trio/R Probst	S T Probst	J Morris	06-113
5/13	Union MO	TB	Rose Ames	C Kuhlmann	C Kuhlmann	C Rust	06-114
5/6	Kansas City MO	TB	Jesse's Song	D Hughes	J Hoke	D Hughes	06-131
5/20	Dodge City KS	TB	Dusky Challenger	J Shelly	J C Sinclair	A Sinclair	06-133
5/6	Parsons KS	TB	Added Value	J Spare	J Spare	N Mealey	06-136
6/11	St. Louis MO	JI	Kyomai	D Delmez	D Delmez	N Hughes	06-141
5/6	Columbia MO	MTB	Petite Monet	E Tankesley-Clarke	E Tankesley-Clarke	D & A Judy	06-151
5/14	Wichita KS	TB	All Night Long	S Fitzpatrick	L Marilley	S Fitzpatrick	06-162
5/28	Wichita KS	LA	Acadian Miss	S Fitzpatrick	S Fitzpatrick	J Richardson	06-163
Region 18							
5/13	Burlington NJ	TB	Disco Eclipse	B Butler	W & M Griner	B Butler	06-156

Date	Place	Type	Best Specimen	Exhibitor	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Number
Region 20							
5/21	Rocky Ford CO	TB	Song of Norway	K Tomky	R McClain	K Tomky	06-129
6/3	Denver CO	TB	Introspection	L Baumunk	P V Vleet	L Baumunk	06-143
6/10	Colorado Springs CO	TB	Acoma	B Roberts	B Roberts	B Hulka	06-149
Region 21							
6/2	Scottsbluff NE	TB	Mild Manner	J Feil	F Hara	L Meininger	06-087
6/3	Sioux Center IA	SIB	Harpwell Snowburst	L Lacey	L Lacy	A Koekkoek	06-120
5/5	Norfolk NE	SDB	Music	M Jansen	M Jansen	N Pehlman	06-124
5/13	Lincoln NE	IB	Galway	G White	C Vanecek	G White	06-128
Region 22							
4/29	Searcy AR	TB	Competitive Edge	A Wood	L Johnson	B & M Coker	06-010
4/22	Tulsa OK	TB	Fancy Woman	J Minter	O & D Hibdon	J Minter	06-013
4/22	Lawton OK	TB	Kind Hearted	D Hooker	S Finney	M Bishop	06-016
5/6	Enid OK	TB	Lady Laree	C Schultz	A D Barrows		06-019
4/22	Hot Springs AR	TB	Got Milk	J Bledsoe	J B Bledsoe	Yvonne Becker	06-048
4/30	Oklahoma City	TB	Ticket To Ride	J Andrews	J Andrews	H & J Stout	06-062
5/7	Oklahoma City	TB	In Love Again	P Dyer	H & J Stout	J Andrews	06-068
5/13	Tulsa Ok	LA	Sinfonietta	P Meekins	J A Minter	P Meekins	06-072
5/6	Ponca City OK	LA	Fat Tuesday	B & C Goldsberry	B & C Goldsberry	B Koster	06-073
4/29	Little Rock AR	LA	Our Dorothy	R Treadway	R Treadway	M Grumbine	06-077
4/29	Norman OK	TB	Classic Look	D Wade	L Carson	C Wilcox	06-107
4/22	Lawton OK	TB	Momentous Occasion	D Hooker	M Bishop	S Finney	06-165
Region 23							
5/13	Albuquerque NM	TB	Shipshape	H Radebaugh	V White	H Radebaugh	06-071
5/6	Albuquerque NM	AB	Bronze Falcon	S Jordan	V White	C Rivera	06-081
4/29	Roswell NM	AB	Blue Arts	C Rivera	P Naranjo	C Rivera	06-096
4/29	Las Cruces NM	TB	Dusky Challenger	M Ritter	R Anderson	S Ayres	06-108
Region 24							
10/7	Gettysburg PA	TB	Zurich	L Hornstein	L Hornstein	J Cortes	06-166
Cooperating Societies							
4/8	Lafayette LA	LA	Jeri	G Rabalais	J Leonard	G Rabalais	06-018



'Sugar Coated' (Schreiner)

Exhibition Certificates

for 2005

Bolded items indicate Best Seedling of a show

TALL BEARDED	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
03-211C	Steven Place	Fort Worth, TX	04/15
Christopher	Rene Shearer	Odessa, TX	04/22
3-116	Randy Squires	Woodland Hills, Ca	04/29
B-3456	Beverly DeWitt	Springfield, MO	04/30
46-99	Dan & Nancy Elliott	Cape Girardeau, MO	05/06
00-903	Tom Parkill	Knoxville, TN	05/06
Pink #1	James Begley	Santa Rosa, CA	05/13
157-148	James Rohrer	Spartanburg, SC	05/13
02A19	Jim Schroetter	Spotsylvania, VA	05/13
2003-142A	Don Spoon	Vienna, VA	05/13
0-13-15-1	Keith Chadwick	Nampa, ID	05/20
5100-1	Sterling Innerst	York, PA	05/20
King of Light	Lowell Baumunk	Denver, CO	06/03
FL-308E	Francis Rogers	Hales Corners, WI	06/03
B0303	Mel Cross	Puyallup, WA	06/03
9244-E	Tom Magee	Colorado Springs, CO	06/10
102	Elizabeth Friesz	Missoula, MT	06/10
034-1M	Margie Valenzuela	Tucson, AZ	04/08
MG-04-412-9	Mark Grumbine	Little Rock, AR	04/29
GDB 34-1	Gary Slagle	Burlington, NJ	05/13
W 04-55	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Strongsville, OH	04/03
92-07-04	Ed Attenberger	Mio, MI	06/10
97-3	Mitch Jameson	St. Joseph, MO	05/20
99-4-1	Larry Grundler	Pittsburgh Iris	05/28
D-2-04-01	Earnest Dyke	Mt. Pleasant, TX	04/22
04-5-1-1-a	Beverly Smith	Lincoln, NE	05/13
J 2-05	Anthony Willott	Strongsville, OH	04/03
2-05	O. D. Niswonger	Cape Girardeau, MO	05/06
BC-03-6	LeRoy Meininger	Scottsbluff, NE	06/02
24-03	Dan & Peggy Cathey	Cleburne, TX	04/22
04-02	Lana Wolfe	Ft. Wayne, IN	05/28
14-04	O. D. Niswonger	Cape Girardeau, MO	05/06
17-04	O. D. Niswonger	Cape Girardeau, MO	05/06
WWH-6-1	Jerry Hoke	Hutchison, KS	05/12
W 06-17	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Strongsville, OH	04/03
7-2-8E	Stephanie & Cindy Rust	Union, WA	05/13
BOARDER BEARDED	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
2K1044B	Barbara Bevier	Santa Rosa, CA	05/13
BB-05-1	Jean Morris	St. Louis, MO	04/23
CDPT-6	Leroy Penrod	Tulsa, Ok	04/22
98-21-15	Vernon & Dana Brown	Lubbock, TX	04/22

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
Rayos Adentro	Carol Morgan	Strongsville, OH	06/03
H 33-5	Charles Bunnell	Oklahoma City, OK	05/07
G-30-5	Chuck Bunnell	Indianapolis, IN	05/20
F10-1	Chuck Bunnell	High Ridge, MO	05/06
3583A	Eric Tankeley-Clarke	Columbia, MO	05/06
LX29	Riley Probst	Kirkwood, MO	05/06
LX29	Riley Probst	St. Louis, MO	05/07
LX29	Riley Probst	St. Louis, MO	05/10
AH 135 LIS	Vicki Craig	Silverton, OR	05/07

INTERMEDIATE TALL BEARDED	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
Cosmic Burst	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Columbus, OH	05/20
W 05-103	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Strongsville, OH	06/03
3200-111	Paul Hill	Charlotte, NC	05/05
RK2002 147	Ramona Keller	Hales Corners, WI	05/20
03-15-6	Riley Probst	St. Louis, MO	04/23
MOXTHSW1	Sandy Ives	Toronto, ON	06/03

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
W 01-33	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Cleveland, OH	05/13
W 03-60	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Cleveland, OH	05/13
W 2K-152	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Cleveland, OH	05/13
2003-32v	Donald Spoon	Vienna, VA	10/21
2003-33m	Donald Spoon	Vienna, VA	10/21
2004-18 A	Donald Spoon	Vienna, VA	10/21
21-20-3	Jayne Richie	Bellevue, WA	05/13
91-20-3	Jayne Richie	Bellevue, WA	05/13
R-S1D2-2KD	Kendal Rohr	Wichita, KS	04/30

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
Tar Hollow	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Cleveland, OH	05/13
04MDBJ29	Carol Coleman	Boise, ID	05/07
LU-05-2	Jean Morris	St. Louis, MO	04/23

LOUISIANA	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
19-03-1	Dorman Haymon	Lafayette, LA	04/08
19-03-2	Dorman Haymon	Lafayette, LA	04/08
HKR-89	Gordon Rabalis	Lafayette, LA	04/08
Seminole Sunrise	Harry Woolford	Lafayette, LA	04/08
JCS-02-01	James Leonard	Lafayette, LA	04/08
CL-2	Jim Landers	Belton, TX	04/13
CL-2	Jim Landers	Waco, TX	04/15
CL-4	Jim Landers	Austin, TX	04/09
J-1	Joey Musacchia	Lafayette, LA	04/08
Pointe aux Chien	Joseph Musacchia	Lafayette, LA	04/08
Princess Anna Marie	Joseph Musacchia	Lafayette, LA	04/08
01-28	Sherry Seabrook	MacClenny, FL	04/09
SEA 02/07	Sherry Seabrook	Milledgeville, GA	04/29

SPECIES	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
Signa 01 B033	Phil Cook	Shelburne Falls, MA	06/04
VB 2-006	Stephen Smith	Shelburne Falls, MA	06/04
W06-15	Anthony & Dorothy Willott	Cleveland, OH	05/13

SPEC X	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
6-10-7A	Stephanie & Cindy Rust	St. Louis, MO	04/23
PACIFIC COAST NATIVE	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
26160-13	Ryan Grisso	Oakland, CA	04/15
OPSR-1	Joyce Ragle	Sacramento, CA	04/15
2673-05	Ryan Grisso	Walnut Creek, CA	04/22
DBSX28B5-3	Gary Knipe	San Jose, CA	04/22
GRS 135 B14-2	Gary Knipe	Freemont, CA	04/22
IAB-1	Garry Knipe	San Jose, CA	04/22
TH-01-PCI-1-C	Ted Howse	San Diego, CA	04/22
X28B5DRDR-11	Garry Knipe	San Jose, CA	04/22
DBSX28B5-3	Gary Knipe	Capitola, CA	04/29
SIBERIAN	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
M/00C23	Kevin Morley	Kansas City, MO	05/06
IRB-7	Bob Barker	St. Louis, MO	05/07
06-02	Calvin Helsley	Springfield, MO	05/13
E-2-06-A	Rita Adkins	Lexington, KY	05/14
98101	D. Steve Varner	Urbana, IL	05/20
Double 7	Carol Warner	Baltimore, MD	05/20
06-2004	Janette Smith	Pulaski, NY	06/03
19-06	Lloyd Ravet	Madison, WI	06/03
K-16	Bill Dougherty	Minneapolis, MN	06/03
S02B-LE	John Cable/Robert Bauer	Portage, MI	06/03
03-56-4-R	Dean Cole	Auburn, ME	06/10
03-A5	Vaughn Sayles	Poughkeepsie, NY	06/04
JAPANESE	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
AR 027	Anna Rettig	West Seneca, NY	07/02
02JD2	Chad Harris	Portland, OR	04/22
02-J-E1	Chad Harris	Portland, OR	04/22
DB-2	Don Delmez	St. Louis, MO	06/11
DDKPRU	Don Delmez	St. Louis, MO	06/11
DDKVO	Don Delmez	St. Louis, MO	06/11
Okaghami	Hiroshi Shimizu	Baltimore, MD	06/24
T96-56-14	Lee Walker	Dover, DE	06/18
02-98-7	Lee Walker	Portland, OR	06/17
98-41-32	Lee Walker	Portland, OR	06/17
7310	Ron James	Pulaski, NY	07/10
02/37 (1)	Sharon Whitney	Auburn, ME	07/15
ARIL	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
2K-15C	Tony & Caroline Chacon	Chico, CA	04/22
HS93-107A-AB	Howard Sockey	Albuquerque, NM	05/06
MCAR 02-26	Pete McGrath	Albuquerque, NM	05/06
J93-13C	Scott Jordon	Albuquerque, NM	05/06
SPURIA	EXHIBITOR	SHOW	DATE
95-28-11	Lee Walker	Portland, OR	06/17
95-57-50	Lee Walker	Portland, OR	06/17
02-SPU-1	Terry Aitken	Portland, OR	06/17

AIS Youth Shows

Winners 2006

DATE	LOCATION	BEST SPECIMEN	TYPE	EXHIBITOR	SILVER MEDAL	BRONZE MEDAL
Region 1						
10 Jun 06	Auburn, ME	Aardvark Lark	TB	Jacob Hastings	Jacob Hastings	
Region 5						
9-Apr-06	MacClenny, FL	Midnight Madness	LA	Callie Raulerson	Roger Raulerson	
29-Apr-06	Milledgeville, GA	Hook	TB	Meikel Yearwood	Brittany White	Abby Snow
Region 6						
3-Jun-06	Portage, MI	Conjuration	TB	K C Copeland & Shawn Copeland	Cody Copeland	
10-Jun-06	Mio, MI	Magician's Apprentice	TB	Luke Dreyer	Sarah Beth Dreyer	Laura Dreyer
Region 7						
5-May-06	Dresden, TN	Pagan Dance	TB	Kenley Goodlow		
6-May-06	Jackson, TN	Ride the Tiger	TB	Kameron Flowers	Kameron Flowers	Payton Flowers
6-May-06	Knoxville, TN	Smiling Gold	TB	Ken Pate		
13-May-06	Greenville, TN	Snow Mound	TB	Mylie Fleenor	Mylie Fleenor	
14-May-06	Lexington, KY	Dynamite	TB	Jared Van Hook	Jared Van Hook	
Region 8						
3-Jun-06	Minneapolis, MN	Lion Share	TB	Rachael Peroutky	Rachael Pecoutky	Casey Peroutky
Region 11						
20-May-06	Nampa, ID	Habit	TB	Jessica McGrew		
Region 14						
29-Apr-06	Capitola, CA	Expose'	TB	Willy Sampson		
Region 15						
8-Apr-06	Tucson, AZ	Coral Point	TB	Christina Kartchner		
Region 17						
8-Apr-06	Midland, TX	King Tush	TB	Stephanie Strauss		
15-Apr-06	Fort Worth, TX	High Five	TB	Kendall Lisle		
22-Apr-06	Odessa, TX	Heavenly Encore	TB	Stephanie Strauss		
Region 18						
30-Apr-06	Wichita, KS	Gnu Blues	TB	Faith Winzer	Charity Winzer	Faith Winzer & Hope Winzer
10-May-06	St. Louis, MO	Ghost Train	TB	Samantha Fritz	Melanie Moralis	Anne Musiel
13-May-06	Springfield, MO	Silverado	TB	Kristin Secrest		
13-May-06	Union, WA	Conjuration	TB	Christine Pennington	Christine Pennington	Megan Pennington
14-May-06	Wichita, KS	Social Graces	TB	Hope Winzer	Hope Winzer	Faith Winzer
Region 21						
2-Jun-06	Scottsbluff, NE	Kimberly	TB	Brittany Charles		
13-May-06	Lincoln, NE	Faint of Heart	TB	Grace Farley	Grace Farley	Sarah Green
Region 22						
22-Apr-06	Tulsa, Ok	Filibuster	TB	Colby Meece	Laura Davidson	Colby Meece
22-Apr-06	Lawton OK	Giraffee Kneehiz	TB	Stewart Miller	Dylan Kyle	Eric Miller
22-Apr-06	Lawton OK	Pretty Is	TB	Jessica Miller	Jessica Miller	Dylan Kyle
29-Apr-06	Norman, OK	Classic Look	TB	David Wade	Courtney Wade	David Wade
30-Apr-06	Oklahoma, City	Color Glory	TB	Courtney Wade	Courtney Wade	David Wade
6-May-06	Ponca City, OK	American Maid	TB	Chris Davidson		Chris Davidson
13-May-06	Tulsa, Ok	Free Ride	TB	Laura Davidson		

Bronze Medals/Certificates

Awarded for Outstanding Commercial & Education Exhibits

Commercial

DATE	LOCATION	EXHIBITOR	REGION
06/03	Puyallup, WA	Ualsterway Iris Gardens & Gifts	13
06/15	Fort Worth, TX	Argyle Acres	17

Education

DATE	LOCATION	EXHIBITOR	REGION
06/03	Buffalo, NY	Maria Gerbracht	2
06/13	Norfolk, VA	William Smoot	4
06/09	MacClenny, FL	Dixie Griffin & Joyce Thrift	5
06/13	Spartanburg, SC	Marshall Goforth	5
06/29	Milledgeville, GA	Earnest Yearwood	5
05/06	Lebanon, TN	Mary Anne Gannon	7
05/13	Greenville, TN	Jewell Hughes	7
06/03	Minneapolis, MN	Barbara Sautner	8
05/13	Bellevue, WA	Carla & George Lankow/Bob Seaman	13
04/15	Sacramento, CA	Kathy Braaten	14
06/22	Walnut Creek, CA	Bruce Harden	14
04/08	Midland, TX	Celena Zimmerman	17
04/09	Austin, TX	Carolyn Gifford	17
04/15	Fort Worth, TX	Valerie Meredith	17
05/10	St. Louis, MO	Classroom Project	18
04/22	Lawton OK	Marjory Puckette	22
05/13	Albuquerque, NM	Patricia Randall	23
04/29	Las Cruces, NM	Scarlett Ayres	23



Iris on display at Schreiner's

AIS Artistic Shows

Adult and Youth Winners of 2006

Adult Winners of 2006

DATE	LOCATION	BEST DESIGN	ARTISTIC SWEEPSTAKES
Region 1			
6/4	Shelburne Falls, MA	Shanna Wheeler	Shanna Wheeler
6/10	Auburn, ME	Nancy McNeill	Nancy McNeill
7/15	Auburn, ME	Sharon Harvie	Sharon Harvie
Region 2			
6/3	Pulaski, NY	Diane Crandall	Diane Crandall
6/3	Buffalo, NY	Marianne Wozniak	
7/2	West Seneca, NY	Judith Tucholski	
Region 4			
5/5	Charlotte, NC	Nancy Moore	
5/13	Spotsylvania, VA	Virginia Estes	Teresa Hardisty
Region 5			
4/9	MacClenny, FL	Marla Halland	Marla Halland
4/29	Milledgeville, GA	Earnest Yearwood	Earnest Yearwood
4/29	Lawrenceville, GA	Lori Henderson	
Region 6			
5/13	Cleveland, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott
5/20	Indianapolis, IN	Maggie Peiffer	Maggie Peiffer
5/21	Muncie, IN	Betty Thomas	
5/27	Mansfield, OH	Johanna Bodiford	Johanna Bodiford
5/27	Grand Rapids, MI	Virginia Smith	Virginia Smith
6/3	Strongsville, OH	Joy Fuhrmeyer	Joy Fuhrmeyer
6/10	Mio, MI	Dolores Meinzing	Dolores Meinzing
Region 7			
4/29	Germantown, TN	Charlotte Hayes	
5/6	Knoxville, TN	Evelyn Taylor	Evelyn Taylor
5/6	Lebanon, TN	Rena Shrum	Rena Shrum
5/7	Memphis, TN	Joan Doty	
5/7	Murfreesboro, TN	Joy McKee	
5/13	Bowling Green, KY	Ann Hocker	Irene Hughes
5/13	Louisville, KY	Robert Strohm	Charlotte Yang
Region 8			
6/3	Minneapolis, MN	Denese Erickson	Denese Erickson
6/3	Madison, WI	Eunice Witt	Eunice Witt
Region 9			
5/13	Lisle, IL	Betsey Grimm	Barbara Miller
Region 11			
5/6	Victor, MT	Donna Dowell	Jim Sadler/Donna Dowell
5/20	Nampa, ID	Louisa Cone	Louisa Cone
6/10	Missoula, MT	Ron Dowell	Jim Sadler/Donna Dowell
Region 12			
5/6	Salt Lake City, UT	Charlotte Easter	Lynn Hess
5/20	Salt Lake City, UT	Charlotte Easter	Charlotte Easter
Region 13			
5/7	Silverton, OR	David Copeland	David Copeland

DATE	LOCATION	BEST DESIGN	ARTISTIC SWEEPSTAKES
5/20	Walla Walla, WA	Connie Sherer	Connie Sherer
5/20	Yakima, WA	Judy Boekholder	Judy Boekholder
6/3	Puyallup, WA	Lori Kase	Judy Blackmer/Eileen Smiley
Tie			
6/3	Spokane, WA	Norma Lunden	Shirley Dicus
Region 14			
4/15	Sacramento, CA	Betty Schmidt	Kathy Braaten
4/15	Las Vegas, NV	Lucile Ray	
4/22	Chico, CA	Dorothy Showmaker	
4/22	San Jose, CA	Lisa Ayala	Jane Anne Walters
4/29	Capitola, CA	Philippa Alvis	Lisa Ayala
5/6	Ukiah, CA	Gretchen Logan	Donna Branson
5/6	Auburn, CA	Kathy Braaten	Kathy Braaten
Region 15			
4/8	Redlands, CA	Derry Gerald	Derry Gerald
4/8	Phoenix, AZ	Francelle Edwards	Clemence Newcomb
4/8	Tucson, AZ	George LeCompte	George LeCompte
4/22	San Diego, CA	Mary Lou Gibson	Dorothy Driscoll
4/29	Costa Mesa, CA	Elaine Monninger	Angie Fierro
4/29	Palmdale, CA	N/A	Norma Jamison
4/29	Woodland Hills, Ca	Pat Tjosaas	Pat Tjosaas
Region 17			
4/8	Midland, TX	Nancy Pipkin	Connie Ford
4/9	Austin, TX	Charlie & Sonja Hensley	None
4/15	Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Hazel Haik
4/15	Fort Worth, TX	Helene Welches	Diane Bevel/Ester Strawn
4/15	New Braunfels, TX	Terri DeCoux	Terri De Coux
4/22	Cleburne, TX	Bab Alexander	
4/22	Sherman, TX	Jan Montgomery	Charlene Owens
4/22	Lubbock, TX	Rosemary English	Rosemary English
5/14	Amarillo, TX	Dawn Boyer	Dawn Boyer
Region 18			
4/23	St. Louis, MO	Vince Italian	
4/30	Wichita, KS	Floanna Crowley	
5/6	Kirkwood, MO	Ginni Hill	Ginni Hill
5/6	Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce
5/7	St. Louis, MO	Vince Italian	Vince Italian
5/10	St. Louis, MO	Laura Sturm	Jean Morris
5/13	Joplin, MO	Barbara Knell	Barbara Knell
5/13	Union, WA	Benadette Pennington	Bernadette Pennington
5/13	Springfiled, MO	Gladys Jones	Gladys Jones
5/14	Wichita, KS	Floanna Crowley	Floanna Crowley
5/20	St. Joseph, MO	Lucille Boswell	Lucille Boswell
5/20	Dodge City, KS	Marti Woods	Carol Loker
5/28	Wichita, KS	Sherryl Fitzpatrick	Sherryl Fitzpatrick
6/11	St. Louis, MO	Virginia Hill	Virginia Hill
Region 20			
5/21	Rocky Ford, CO	Rose McClain	Rose McClain
6/3	Denver, CO	Betty Roberts	Betty Roberts
6/10	Colorado Springs, CO	Betty Roberts	Betty Roberts
Region 21			
5/5	Norfolk, NE	Majorie Jansan	
5/13	Lincoln, NE	Jean Pedersen	Ron Crampton

DATE	LOCATION	BEST DESIGN	ARTISTIC SWEEPSTAKES
6/2	Scottsbluff, NE	Libby Jensen	Libby Jensen
6/3	Sioux Center, IA	Ruth Postma	Debbie Lewison
Region 22			
4/22	Lawton OK	David Barton	David Barton
4/22	Lawton OK	David Barton	David Barton
4/22	Hot Springs, AR	Karen Johnson	
4/29	Norman, OK	Betty Lou McMartin	Carolyn Wilcox
4/29	Little Rock, AR	Susan Elliott	Genie Sigler
4/30	Oklahoma, City	Shelia Senghas	Shelia Senghas
5/7	Oklahoma City, OK	Ruth Nichols	
5/13	Tulsa, Ok	Mavihelen Davis	Mavihelen Davis
Region 23			
4/29	Roswell, NM	Georgia Schoenecker	Pegi Naranjo
5/13	Albuquerque, NM	Patricia Randal	Patricia Randall

Youth Winners of 2006

DATE	LOCATION	BEST DESIGN	ARTISTIC SWEEPSTAKES
Region 1			
6/10	Auburn, ME	Abbey Ronco	
7/15	Auburn, ME	Kelsey Best	
Region 2			
6/3	Pulaski, NY	Ronnie Marsden	
Region 5			
4/9	MacClenny, FL	Le Anne Griffin	
4/29	Milledgeville, GA	Brittany White	
Region 7			
5/6	Knoxville, TN	Ken Pate	Ken Pate
Region 9			
5/13	Lisle, IL	Ally Timko	
Region 12			
6/2	Logan, UT	Alyssa Brown	Kira Brown
Region 14			
5/6	Ukiah, CA	Penny Vinson	
Region 15			
4/22	San Diego, CA	Grace Gibson	
4/29	Woodland Hills, Ca	Rachael Emerick	Taylor Branch
Region 17			
4/8	Midland, TX	Stephanie Strauss	Stephanie Strauss
4/15	Fort Worth, TX	Leslie Tiblets	Leslie Tiblets
Region 18			
4/30	Wichita, KS	Charity Winzer	Charity Winzer
5/7	St. Louis, MO	Chris Raymond	
5/10	St. Louis, MO	Julie Wobbe's Students	
5/13	Union, WA	Allison Grazeskowiak	Allison Grzeskowiak
5/14	Wichita, KS	Faith Winzer	
Region 20			
6/10	Colorado Springs, CO	Jason Wheeler	
Region 21			
5/13	Lincoln, NE	Spencer Farley	
Region 22			
4/29	Norman, OK	Michael Kowalchyk	Courtney Wade
5/7	Oklahoma City, OK	Harley Glenn	

Minutes of the AIS

Kansas City, Missouri, November 3 & 4, 2006

President Jeanne Plank called to order the Fall Meeting of the AIS Board of Directors at 7:30pm on Friday, November 3, 2006, and announced a quorum was present. A listing of attendees is included with the full minutes.

The Digest Minutes of the Portland, Oregon, meeting were approved as published in the October 2006 AIS **Bulletin**, page 98. The full minutes were approved as published on the AIS web page.

*President Plank announced that as the AIS General Secretary did not receive any additional nominations to the Board of Directors, the four published nominees (Donna James, John Jones, Brad Kasperek, and Joyce Poling) were elected by acclamation.

Action taken was as follows:

- Mike Lowe was approved as Parliamentarian for the meeting.
- John Jones was approved as electronic Motion Monitor.

Interim email action affirmed:

- Instituting PayPal as a means of joining AIS via the AIS Webpage.
- Appointment of Tracy Plotner as the AIS Library Chair.
- One-time extension of the Alan Meerow Grant.
- Purchase and pricing details for the new Clarence Mahan Book.

Reports:

Treasurer: Jill Bonino reported that the AIS had a very good year. The Silent Auction brought in more money because of the large attendance at the Portland Convention, and the number of items donated. The number of generous donations received for the insurance fund were very helpful. The financial advisory committee submitted a draft for a proposed investment policy, which was amended and approved by the board:

- The amended and approved investment policy read: Restricted funds shall not be used for general AIS operations. Annual earned income from these investment monies shall remain in the restricted funds, with the exception of the life membership fund interest, unless specifically approved by the Board of Directors.

On another recommendation, the board approved:

- That the Claire B Barr Library Endowment Fund (a restricted fund) be transferred to the AIS Foundation's restricted AIS Library Endowment Fund.

Bulletin Editor: Bruce Filardi's report was accepted. Representing the *Bulletin* Advisory Committee, Aitken presented comparisons from 5 different printers for the printing of the AIS *Bulletin*. After much discussion on cost comparisons, color correctness, paper weight, and printing time, the following recommendations were presented and approved by the board:

- That (this year) one issue of the *Bulletin* be published with #70 paper using the publisher of the Editorial committee's choice.
- That the term "the RVPs" be moved from the current *Bulletin* Obituary Policy effective January 2007 (without affecting obituaries already written and in the obit pipeline).
- That we establish a "Milestones" column in the *Bulletin*.
- That we change our naming convention to single quotation marks surrounding the cultivar name in upper and lower case print as in 'Sea Power' (Keppel 99).
- That publishing AIS Officers, and Directors, Committee Chairpeople, Chairs of Standing Committees, AIS Sections, Cooperating Societies, Regions & Regional Vice Presidents remain status quo.
- That the Current AIS *Bulletin* Picture Policy from the May 23, 1995, and November 4, 1995, AIS Board Meetings: color pictures used in AIS publications should be

registered, introduced irises, properly published species, historical cultivars, and those used for illustrative purposes and overall garden shots "be reinforced and implemented".

*That the AIS *Bulletin* Index be placed on the AIS Website.

Advertising Editors: Margaret & George Sutton reported that the number of color page ads dropped dramatically when the rates went up, but the shopping section ads went up.

Membership Secretary: Tom Gormley reported that 141 members took advantage of the triennial upgrade offer. The new PayPal payment option has accounted for 58 new or renewed memberships. Membership numbers are still going down. There are 314 fewer members than the same time last year. The membership advisory committee report presented a proposal approved by the board:

*That the AIS should create a members-only section of the AIS Website as an added benefit of membership in the AIS.

Registrations/Recorders: Mike Lowe stated that the yearly iris registrations are currently up to 1035. Ludi recommended ordering a smaller number of Registration & Introductions (R&I's) for the coming year. The board approved the following motions:

- That AIS print 800 copies of the 2006 R&I.
- That the price for the 2006 R&I be set at \$10.00.

Publication/Sales Director: John Ludi reported that the storefront still has an excessive amount of World of Iris books and Iris postcards. The board approved the following:

- That the price of post cards from the Storefront be reduced to \$2.00 each per pack or 3 packs for \$5.00.
- That a set of the 1939 thru the 1999 Checklists be created and to be sold for \$75.00 including postage.
- That a set of the 2000 thru 2005 R&I's be created to be sold for \$45.00 including postage.

Non-profit Incorporation/501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Status: Bob Plank reported work continues with 3 new iris societies to become tax-exempt.

Unfinished Business: John Jones stated that the work continues on the racetrack design.

Affiliates: Brad Kasperek reported the approval of 178 approved affiliates.

Awards: Roy Epperson stated that 627 Official AIS 2006 Ballots were mailed. By the due date of the ballot, there were 542 timely ballots received.

Calendars: Terry Aitken proposed and the board approved:

- That AIS order 2000 copies of the 2008 Calendar and budget at \$6300.

Convention Liaison: Paul Gossett reported that there is a possible host for the 2010 or 2011 convention. Paul made the following motions and the board approved:

- That AIS accept the Las Vegas Iris Society invitation to host the fall 2008 Board meeting.
- That AIS move the Tulsa, Oklahoma Fall Board meeting from 2008 to 2009. Gossett also noted that Dennis Hager and Ron Mullin have been added to the convention committee.

Donations: The report from Donna James was accepted. The report pointed out that donations have been good.

Electronic Services: John Jones reported that since the Spring Board meeting, Paypal services have become activated on the web page. The Geek Dinner/Auction raised over \$4,000. It is possible for AIS members to check their AIS membership expiration date on the AIS website. The following motions were recommended and approved by the board:

- That Electronic Services create the ability to check AIS membership expiration dates on the AIS website. The information available online would be Name, Member number, Expiration date, and Region. Results displayed would be sorted alphabetically by last name.
- That Electronic Services publish an annual password for access to the AIS Members-Only Page.
- That as soon as the current issue of the *Bulletin* is shipped to the Post Office for distribution, the *Bulletin* in PDF format be made available on the Members Only

section of the AIS website.

Historical Resources: Anne Lowe reported that the domain name of irisinfo.org has been secured, and soon information will be posted. President Plank asked that the name of this committee be changed to "Information Resource Committee."

The meeting adjourned and the Board went into Executive Session.

When the meeting reconvened, President Plank announced the **Honorary Awards**. The Hybridizer's Medal was awarded to Hiroshi Shimizu of Japan and Hal Stahly, the Distinguished Service Medal to Jim Copeland and Jay Hudson, the Bee Warburton Medal to Susan Webber of Germany.

In an effort to develop a clear policy statement on the vote count needed for Honorary Awards, the following recommendations were presented and approved by the board:

- That the percentage of the AIS Board present and voting for the awarding of the Hybridizer's Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Warburton Medal, and the Gold Medal be set at 75%.
- That on page 9 of the current *Handbook* referencing the appointment of Emeritus Judges, that the term "75% approval of the directors present and voting is required" be inserted.

Foundation Liaison: Bob Plank talked about the status of the Hager/DuBose estate Endowment Trust.

Insurance: Michelle Snyder reported that this year's insurance premium bill was unexpectedly and surprisingly lower than expected. It was noted that this premium drop is puzzling and more than likely just a one-year phenomenon. Any monies donated after October 1, 2006, to the Board for insurance will be held in a fund restricted for insurance premium payment only and used when necessary for meeting insurance premium costs.

Judges: Judy Keisling stated that there are currently 803 judges. The recommendations submitted by Chairman Keisling for judges for 2007 were approved.

Judges Handbook: Chairman Roy Epperson moved that the Board adopt the following changes in practice to the AIS *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*, to be effective January 1, 2007. (These changes were adopted in principle at the Spring 2006 Board Meeting). The board approved the following:

- That AIS adopt changes to Chapter 22 and the revised Chapter 22 of the Judge's Handbook.
- That the designation of Judges' titles be: Apprentice (A), Garden/Exhibition (G/E), Senior (S) [formerly Master/Active], Retired (R) [formerly Master/Retired], Master (M) [formerly Emeritus], and Overseas (OS) be approved.
- That, by definition, a fully accredited AIS judge is any currently approved judge in the following categories: G/E, S, M, and OS be approved.
- That the following statement in the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* (page 8) be deleted: "These judges (Master/Retired) may be used as a show judge if needed by a show committee. They are to be assigned to a panel with an accredited judge or an active Master judge." be approved.
- That only fully accredited judges may judge in an accredited show or present a for-credit show. A retired judge may not present a for-credit judges training course.
- That an approved judges' training class be defined as: A structured in-classroom or in-garden instruction for 2 or more participants, presented by a fully accredited AIS judge. A written test of at least 10 questions for each hour of training credit shall be administered, discussed, and filed with the regional JT chair.
- That the current requirements for in-garden training be reaffirmed.
- That the current scale of points in the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* for the Artistic Division be retained.

The following new motions were presented by Epperson and also received board approval:

- In point scoring in an Exhibition, the judge may wish to follow these guidelines. A cultivar scoring 90 to 100 points merits a Blue Ribbon, a cultivar scoring 80 to 89 points

merits a Red Ribbon, and a cultivar scoring 70 to 79 points merits a White Ribbon. The judge should not treat these guidelines as requirements for this makes exhibition judging a mechanical action and does not take into consideration qualitative evaluations.

- That AIS order 1200 copies of the new Judges Training Handbook insert.
- That AIS price the Judges handbook binder and insert at \$15.00, and the insert alone be priced at \$12.00.

Librarian: Tracy Plotner's report stated that in the future she will be submitting a budget request to buy books and some needed filing cabinets.

Historical Chronicles: Clarence Mahan resigned as the chair. This committee will be assigned to and become a subsection under the Publications committee.

Photo Contest: Kitty Loberg's report stated that because of the timing, winner's prizes would be presented to this year's contest winners next year. Board action granted:

- Approval of a photo contest for 2007.
- Approval of a budget of \$500 for the 2007 photo contest.

Board action moved and approved:

- That the winning photographs (with attribution) of the 2007 Photo contest be first announced and printed in the January 2008 *Bulletin*.
- That the winning photographs (with attribution) of the 2007 AIS Photo contest be first published on the AIS website in coordination with their publication in the January 2008 *Bulletin*.
- That the Board give official commendation to Kitty Loberg for her work on the 2006 photo contest.

Policy: Mike and Anne Lowe will assume the Policy Committee Chair for the coming year.

Programs, Slides, and Speakers: Avery & Joyce Poling were not present but stated in their written report that the Speakers program is underway.

Public Relations: Bob Pries reported that Ann Violette is in charge of sending out new member packets. Ernie Henson and Will Plotner are in charge of the AIS screens. Advertising ideas on the internet were discussed.

Robins: Susan Boyce reported that the AISeRobin program is no longer being used. The paper robin program has dwindled down to just a few sectional robin programs, which are being handled by the sections. She asked if the board wants to continue to have a Robin program. The board approved the following motion:

- That AIS discontinue the appointment of a director for the Robin activity.

RVP Counselor: Louise Carson reported that Region 24 was still in need of a RVP for the year ahead. The board approved the RVPs as listed on the RVP Counselor's report.

RVP Representative: Bob Keup reported that there is no official job description for RVP Rep, and wondered if his job is needed. After much discussion it was decided that the RVP Rep job is needed. It was suggested that there is a need for a website such as RVP/discuss to act as an easy channel of communication for all RVP's

Scientific Advisory Committee: Chairman Gary White made the following recommendation, which was approved by the board:

- That \$5,000 be allocated for applicable scientific projects and that any monies not awarded during fiscal year 2006-2007 be transferred into the Restricted Scientific Fund.

Section Liaison: Jim Morris presented a Median Iris Society proposal that the AIS create a convention award for the best median. This proposed traveling cup award will be funded by the Median Iris Society, and named for Ben R Hager. After much discussion the board voted and approved the following motions:

- That a Ben R. Hager Cup for Best Median be instituted at the AIS National Convention as an AIS award to be voted on by attendees of the AIS National Convention for the favorite median observed in the tour gardens during the convention. "Median" is defined as a bearded iris from any of the four classifications officially recognized by AIS.

- a. Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB)

- b. Intermediate Bearded (IB)
- c. Border Bearded (BB)
- d. Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB)

The variety must be introduced but is not limited to Official Guest Irises. Any introduced median seen on tour is eligible (same criteria as President's Cup and Franklin Cook Cup). "Separate but equal to the two current cups." Example: A variety could win both the Hager Cup and the President's Cup or Franklin Cook Cup. The cost of design and construction of the cup is to be funded by the Median Iris Society.

- That the Ben R Hager cup be implemented in 2007 commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Median Iris Society.

An additional motion presented to and approved by the board was:

- Be it resolved: Upon approval of the Ben R Hager Cup as an AIS Award for Median Iris, the AIS Board recognized that AIS Sections and Cooperating Societies representing currently-recognized classifications of irises may also submit similar requests for consideration by the AIS Board.

Silent Auction: Rita Gormley reported that the silent auction was a success, and covers its own cost.

Symposium: Gerry Snyder warned of the possibility that the Symposium report may not be ready in time for the January 2007 *Bulletin*.

Youth: Cheryl Deaton presented the AIS Youth Protection Guidelines. The board voted and approved:

- That the AIS Youth Protection Guidelines be adopted.

The annual elections of **Officers** and the appointments approvals of **Administrative Officers** resulted in no changes.

The appointments to **Standing Committee Chairs** can be found at the front of this *Bulletin* under the heading "Chairs of Standing Committees." The 2007 appointment list will be printed in the full minutes for this meeting, available on the website, or obtained by contacting the AIS General Secretary's office.

Treasurer Bonino reviewed the **Proposed Budget** for the fiscal year 2006-2007 with changes that had been added and subtracted as they came up during discussion throughout the meeting. A balanced budget could not be reached. The Board voted and approved the budget as amended.

Meeting dates for the 2007 Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, were announced. Paul Gossett provided information on the convention and hotel.

President Plank thanked Judy Keisling and her committee for being our host at this fall meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. 

Visit the AIS web site at www.irises.org

In Memoriam: *Dr. & Col. Herbert C. Holk*

1924-2005

by Bill Rinehart, Oregon

Col. Herbert Christian Holk, 81, transferred to his ultimate post on January 31, 2005, after many years of public service, 27 of which were in the U.S. Air Force.

Herb germinated and was lined out in Foley, Alabama, and the "Old South" was genetically and environmentally imprinted on this unique cultivar. He was an honor student, graduating from Auburn University as a doctor of veterinary medicine and receiving a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

Herb married Sara Claire Plant in 1943. Herb was strong and independent and would have been successful solo, but I never knew him without her. The two were a team, each stronger because of the presence of the other. In addition to Sara, survivors include three children, four brothers, eleven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, a legion of friends and a tome of memories.


Dr. Holk's file would show retirement from the Air Force and retirement from his post-military career as Deputy Director of Special Services for the Riverside (CA) County Health Department, but he never retired – he just changed clothes. Even though his last costume had two ties and a gap in the back, he never stopped participating in the management of the Cal-Dixie Iris Gardens – the largest commercial iris presence in Southern California.

Cal-Dixie, what an appropriate name! (Allesandro x Ramona) X Rhett Butler. It was here and in related activities that most of us knew him best. Herb and Sara were pivotal in the continued success of the I.R.I.S. and Region 15. Herb served as RVP from 1997-2000. He was a Master Judge.

Herb was once told that nothing he had accomplished to date in iris breeding was good enough to warrant continuing his program. Herb, however, was nothing if not determined and the Holk Memorial Garden, a complete collection of his introductions, has been established in the Jurupa Mountain Cultural Center in California.

My friend was frank, responsible, volatile, loyal, generous and

hospitable. His generosity was reflected in the number of affiliates that depended upon Cal-Dixie for rhizomes for auctions or sales. His hospitality was infectious. A knock on his door was an invitation to a glass of wine and a seat at the kitchen counter.

At his present station "there are many mansions." No doubt Herb is hosting in one of them at this moment. Cheers, Herb Holk! 

In Memoriam: Dr. Elizabeth A. Wood

October 19, 1912 – March 23, 2006

by Jim Morris, Missouri

A true Renaissance woman, Dr. Elizabeth (Betty) A. Wood, 93, of Freehold, NJ, passed away on March 23, 2006, at CentraState Medical Center, surrounded by family and friends. Betty was born in 1912 in New York City across from Grant's Tomb, received her BA from Barnard and her MA and PhD in Geology from Bryn Mawr College in 1939. In later years she was awarded three honorary doctorates, of which one was from Wheaton College and another from the Western College for Women.

Betty taught at Bryn Mawr and Barnard for eight years, was a National Research Council Fellow at Columbia University and then, following her impressive study and technical paper on quartz crystals, she became the first female scientist hired in 1943 at Bell Laboratories, where she spent 24 years as a research physical crystallographer. Her initial work was on quartz crystal oscillators for World War II military communications. She was a past President in 1957 of the American Crystallographic Association which later honored her with establishment of the Elizabeth A. Wood Science Writing Award in 1997.

Dr. Wood and her husband Ira (for whom part of the Morgan-Wood Medal for Siberian irises is named) probably didn't know an iris from a daylily until they married and moved to New Jersey in 1948. At their apartment house garden they discovered irises growing, so as scientists do (Ira, known as Sandy, also worked for Bell Labs) they sought advice and bought "*Iris for Every Garden*" by Sidney Mitchell. Because of the irises they bought land, built a house, bought a car and a good camera. Together they attended every AIS Convention from 1954


through 1977 when Sandy died. Betty continued for several more years.

Betty wrote two books on crystals, published a handbook for school teachers about growing crystals of easily obtained materials such as salt, sugar, and moth flakes, and wrote a book in 1968, just for fun, entitled "*Science for the Airplane Passenger*." Having worked in the aerospace business, I read this book many years ago not realizing that the author was *the* Betty Wood that I knew so well in the iris world. She and Sandy co-wrote "*The Handbook for the American Iris Society Members and Officers*" in 1971.

Betty Wood served the American Iris Society and the Median Iris Society in many capacities. She was RVP for Region 19 (1969-1971) and she and Sandy guest edited the AIS *Bulletin* in April 1974 following the death of Dr. J. Arthur Nelson. Betty wrote three sections of the AIS *Youth Members Handbook*, and the Hybridizing chapter of the AIS *Basic Iris Culture* booklet.

She was President of the Median Iris Society (1976-1979) and she wrote many articles for MIS's *The Medianite* ranging from iris culture in Region 19 to people profiles, compiled reports of the MIS Display Gardens (she chaired this in 1973-75), and for three years prepared quarterly her MIS President's column. She became such a proficient photographer that she was selected to write the chapter on iris photography in the AIS "*Garden Irises*" revision. Betty and her husband Ira were both awarded the AIS Distinguished Service Medal in 1974. As an AIS Judge she traveled to Italy and judged the 1974 International Iris Competition in Florence.

Betty dabbled in hybridizing for years, first with TBs without success and then with medians. Her favorite color was "coffee-with-cream-in-it" for which she strived. She finally got it with a blue beard (!) and registered 'Lion Cub' as a MDB in 1966. Later a better sibling was introduced as 'Taupkin' (73, SDB). She never won any AIS hybridizing awards from the judges, which is probably surprising considering her scientific bent, but she enjoyed the process. Steve Varner introduced "Betty Wood" (79, SDB) named for her.

Betty is survived by her nephew, Ralph, and his wife Betsy Booth, sister-in-law, Della Wood, and Betty's loving companion of 27 years, W. Rae Young. For her last 12 years of apartment residence, she and Rae enjoyed an active life revolving around plays, sailing, music, French and German discussion groups and extensive travel. A celebration of her life was held March 31, 2006, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Monmouth, NJ. The program guide was illustrated with an iris. 

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compiled by Donna James, Donations Secretary

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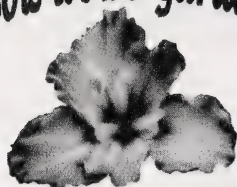
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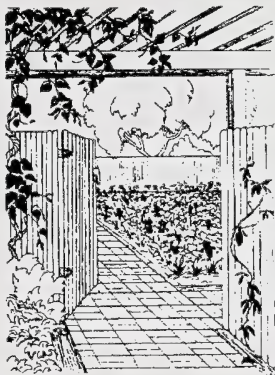
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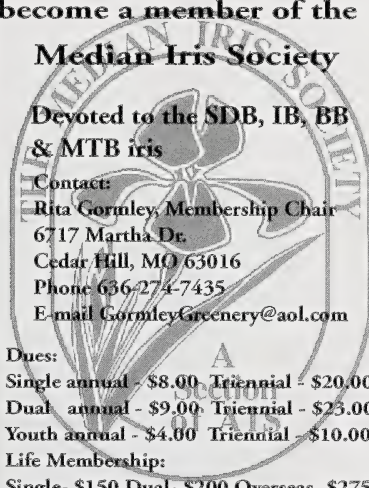
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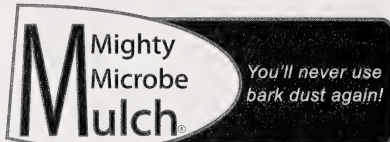
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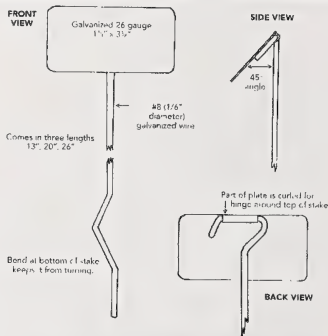


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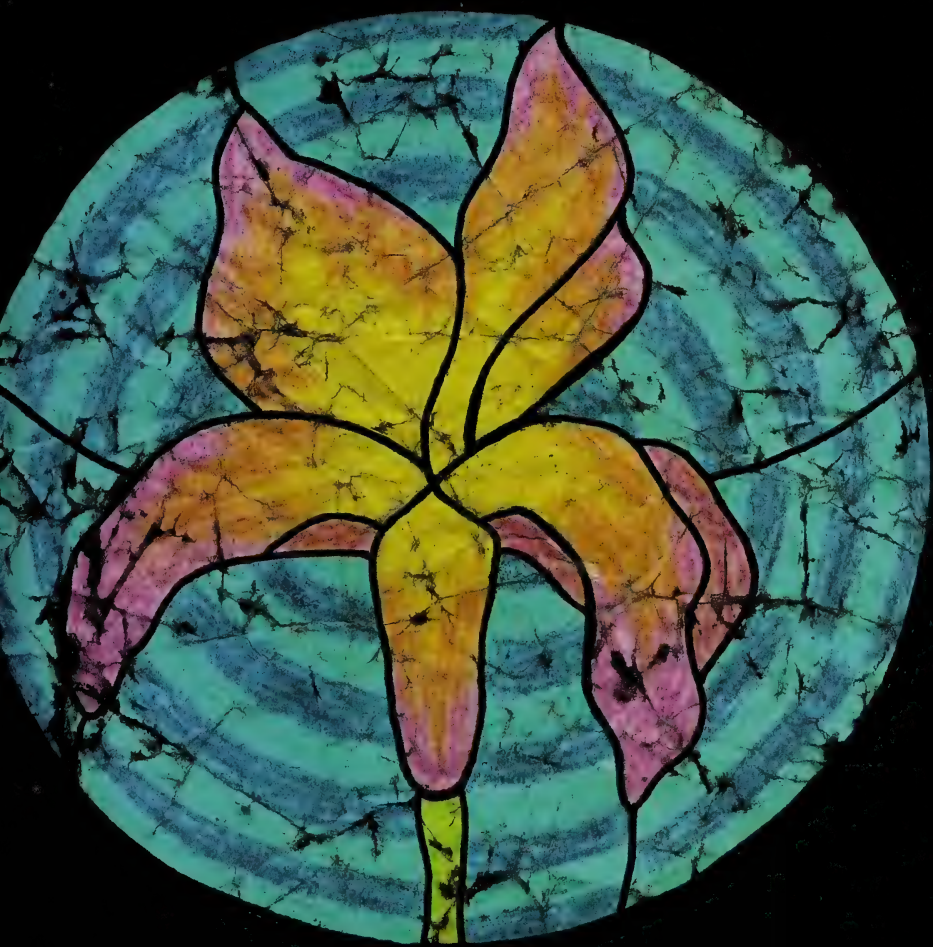
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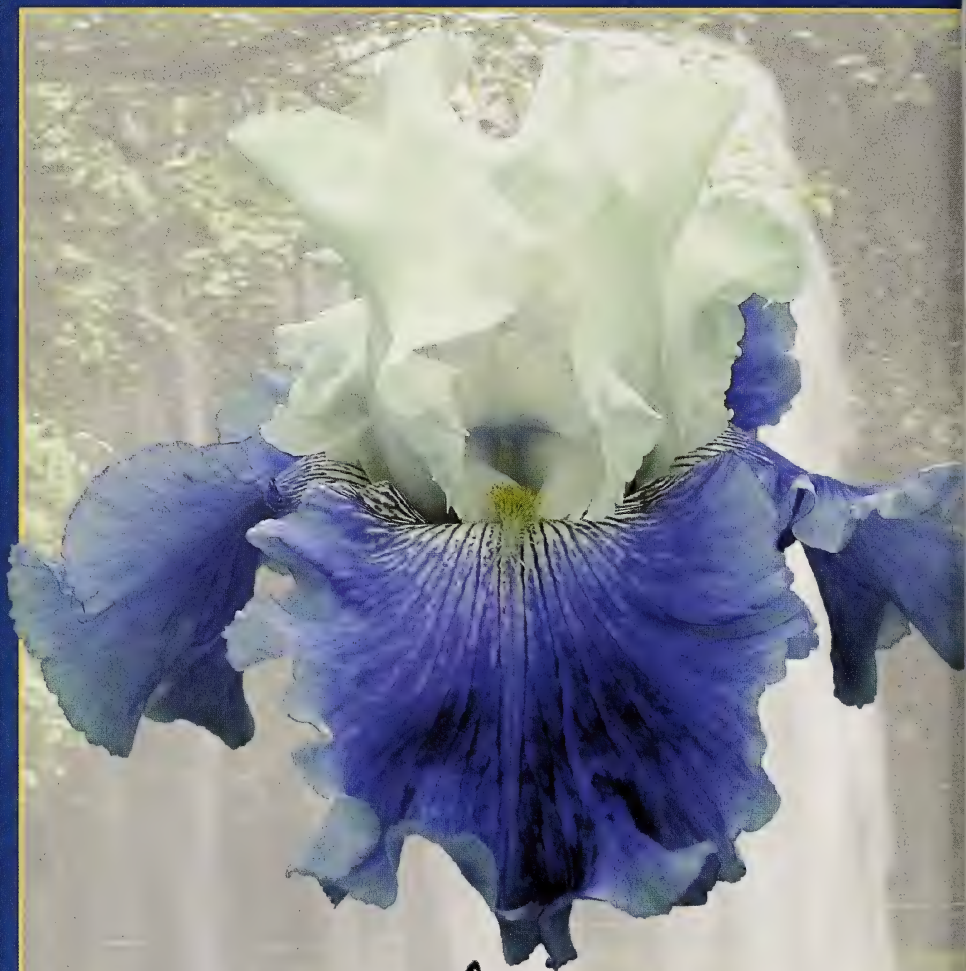
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Spuria Iris Society	9.00	20.00	12.00	24.00
Society for Japanese Iris	5.00	12.50	6.00	15.50
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Society for PCNs	8.00	20.00	10.00	23.00
Species Iris Group (SIGNA)	12.00	32.00	12.00	32.00
Dwarf Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	10.00	24.00	12.00	30.00
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President's Message

Jeanne Clay Plank, California

During the coming year some notable changes will be taking place in the AIS organization. Announced in the January 2007 Editor's Message and becoming effective with the completion of this, the April 2007 Bulletin issue, one such change is the retirement of AIS Bulletin Editor Bruce Filardi.

The position of Bulletin Editor is an arduous one. Bruce Filardi has filled this position of relentless responsibility from January 2002 through April 2007, for a total of 22 issues. In addition, prior to becoming editor, he served as Assistant Editor for one year under his predecessor, Terry Aitken.

On behalf of the AIS Board of Directors and Irisarians everywhere, I thank Bruce for his dedication and long hours of service spent producing a vital and beautiful AIS Bulletin that links together all AIS members, and represents the American Iris Society to the world.

Filardi joins the roster of a small, select group of notable and brave men and women who, over the 87 years of AIS existence, have served in this sensitive and most visible of all AIS positions – AIS Bulletin Editor.

The first AIS Bulletin, June 1920, was edited by Robert Sturtevant, who served in that position from 1920-1934, and again in 1946 for three issues. In the early years of the organization the positions of AIS Secretary and Editor were combined. Sturtevant served for seven years in this dual role until, at his urging, the Secretary's position was split off, and Sturtevant continued as Editor – only for another seven consecutive years. Sturtevant holds the record for being the longest serving Bulletin Editor – fourteen consecutive years, plus three additional issues.

B.Y. Morrison (1935-1940) succeeded Sturtevant, and was in turn succeeded by Fred W. Cassebeer (1940-1945). Following an interim during which Robert Sturtevant edited three issues (1946) and Geddes Douglas edited five (1946-1947), Sam Y. Caldwell became the editor for three years (1947-1950). Under Caldwell the AIS Secretary and Editor positions were rejoined. When Caldwell retired, Douglas returned to the Editor's position for an additional ten years (1950 – 1960) during which time he served simultaneously as AIS Secretary and Bulletin Editor, with the assistance of several notable Associate Editors.



Jeanne Clay Plank


Thomas E. Jacoby became Editor in 1960. He served until 1964 when J. Arthur Nelson took over. Nelson became AIS Registrar in 1965. He continued as both Editor and Registrar until his death in December of 1973. The January 1974 Bulletin was published posthumously under his name with the aid of Nelson's daughter, then known as Kay Nelson Negus, who served as his assistant for both the editor and registrar positions. An interim period with five Guest Editors followed Nelson's death, after which Phil Edinger assumed the editorship and held the position for 17 issues.

When Edinger stepped down, Ann Dasch became Editor for eleven issues. Incidentally, Dasch is the only woman who has ever held the full title of Bulletin Editor. Although many women served as Assistant Editors and/or Associate editors, no other woman has served as the Editor. Two women have served, however, as Guest Editor: Betty Wood (Guest Co-Editor with husband Ira, April 1974) and Marian Schmul (Guest Editor, January 1988).

In January 1982, Keith Keppel became Editor and held the position for a total of twenty-two Bulletins. When Keppel stepped down, Terry Aitken, Hooker Nichols, Phil Williams, and Marian Schmul were one-issue Guest Editors for the next four issues.

In January 1988, Ron Mullin was announced as the new Bulletin Editor beginning with the April 1988 issue. Mullin had served as a Guest Editor for one issue during the period following the death of Nelson (as had Guest Editors Ira and Betty Wood, Perry Parrish, Phil Edinger and Albert F. DeGroat). Mullin retired as Editor in April 1996 after holding the position for a remarkable 33 issues, longer than any AIS editor since Douglas. When Mullin stepped down, Terry Aitken stepped up. Both men had been one-issue Guest Editors and Aitken had edited the Special 75th Anniversary Bulletin in 1995.

Filardi became Editor when Aitken became AIS President, bringing the roster of AIS Editors up to date: a total of 15 individual full-time Editors, plus nine one-time Guest Editors, three of which (Edinger, Mullin and Aitken) went on to become Editor. Both Mullin and Aitken also served as AIS President, Mullin before he became Editor and Aitken after.

AIS Editors comprise an illustrious group, all of whom have influenced the development and personality of the AIS Bulletin. Your AIS Bulletin Editor is an important officer. His work goes into the mailbox of every Irisarian throughout the world, projecting the face of the American Iris Society to the world at large. The editor's job is to present that face in the most forthright, bright and interesting way possible; an important officer, this AIS Bulletin Editor. To all the AIS Bulletin Editors who have toiled over the years, we pay tribute to the skill and art they have exhibited in the performance of this most visible and fundamentally important service to our Society. Thank you. 

Editor's Message

Bruce Filardi, Oregon

A single sentence that I added to my previous Editor's Message will be the subject of several paragraphs in this issue!

At the last minute, I added the following sentence to my Editor's Message in January: "The Board has also determined that we may no longer print photos of seedlings, so this issue will be the last to include seedling photos."

So let me explain! First of all, my statement was incorrect. I knew that Board Member Jim Morris had suggested a change in rules to disallow seedling photos. After the Fall Board Meeting, which I did not attend, Jeanne Plank informed me that the Board had voted to "reinforce and implement" the existing policy, as follows:

"That color pictures used in AIS publications should be registered, introduced irises, properly published species, historical cultivars, and those used for illustrative purposes and overall garden shots."

I misunderstood this! Because seedlings are not specifically mentioned, I interpreted it to mean that they are not allowed. (Interestingly enough, after almost ten years of working on the *Bulletin*, this was the first time I'd ever seen the policy!) And I only mentioned it in my January Message so the Board would not think I was ignoring what I thought was their new ruling...

When the January *Bulletin* reached members' homes, however, I was reprimanded specifically for the Schafer-Sacks seedlings on pages 48-49, and for the Probst and Trio seedlings on page 47.

But then, just a few days later, the Board published a clarification of their ruling [as cited above] on the AIS website, accompanied by the following elucidation:

"The phrase 'and those used for illustrative purposes and overall garden shots' is properly interpreted as meaning that 'any color picture' may be used for illustrative purposes and overall garden shots. In fact, a picture of the Empire State Building could be used in the *Bulletin* IF it were used for illustrative purposes in an article or if it made sense for an overall garden shot. This is an unlikely example, but serves to illustrate the issue. Color pictures of seedlings may be used in the same manner."

So I have to admit that I am still unclear on the correct answer. But, as this is my last issue as Editor, it will become someone else's responsibility to make such decisions in the future!

* * *

The success of the AIS *Bulletin* is not the result of any single

person. Yes, the Editor is the “face” of the *Bulletin* – and also the recipient of criticism for anything that appears in the *Bulletin*! However, each issue comes together only after numerous other people have completed their jobs efficiently. I would like to acknowledge a few people who have been especially helpful over the years.

A very sincere THANK YOU to:

Every single author and photographer who has had work printed in the *Bulletin*! Your contributions make each issue strong.



With no copy of the AIS *Bulletin* available, Bruce Filardi uses the British Music Magazine ‘Q’ to entertain the local wildlife.

Erica Bjerning, our talented and hardworking layout person, who somehow manages to produce order from chaos in time to get each issue to the printer.

Barbara & Terry Aitken who were, through most of my time as Editor, an ever-reliable source of support, encouragement, knowledge, and hospitality.

Margaret Sutton, who has brought amazing organization and efficiency to the Advertising Manager’s position.

Jean Morris, for her dedication and hard work as the Youth Chair during most of my years as Editor; and Cheryl Deaton, who is now building upon Jean’s sturdy foundation.

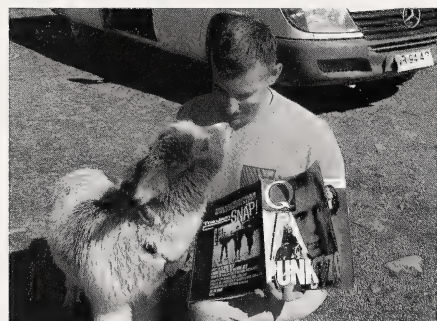
International Editors George & Margaret Sutton, who filled this position at the start, and Anna & David Cadd, who are filling this position at the end.

Jim Morris, who is often the first to criticize, and who sometimes keeps criticizing long after the initial problem has been solved, but who is also always the first person to raise his hand to volunteer to do anything necessary to help.

Roy Epperson, who does such an amazing job on the AIS Ballot



Punk rock gets mixed reviews...



...but the overall effect is rewarded with a kiss.
Lauca National Park in the Andes of Northern Chile,
February of 2006.

and the Awards results each year, and who also prepared the List of Judges for several of the last few years; and Judy Keisling, who is now preparing the List of Judges.

Gerry Snyder, who compiles both the Symposium Ballot and the Symposium Results each year. His job, like Roy Epperson's, is one that requires attention to detail, commitment, and a world of patience!


And many others, who met deadlines and prepared Donations Reports, the Storefront, Show Reports, etc., etc.

And our advertisers, who help enormously.

Again, I thank you!

* * *

As I mentioned, I've spent almost ten years working on the *Bulletin*, starting as an unofficial "Assistant Editor" for a few years before I actually received that title. I will miss working on this publication, and I will miss all the iris friends I've made over the years. I wish you all a very good iris season in 2007.

In closing, I would like to remember four fine ladies whom we have lost in the last few years, and who were bright lights in my iris world: Lynn Finkel, Laura Buelow, Margaret McCrae, and Rosalie Figge. 

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Youth Views

Cheryl Deaton, California

Usually, this column is filled with information about some of the wonderful AIS youth members and the activities sponsored by the American Iris Society, but this year it is too early for the results of the Clarke Cosgrove Award for Youth Achievement, and the deadline for the Ackerman Essay Contest is still six weeks away. So I'd like to take this opportunity to thank a few of the adult AIS members who help to make the AIS youth program such a huge success.


Nancy Price is the AIS Youth webmistress. She works with me to update the information on the youth website and to announce the winners of the various contests. Together we are trying to make the youth website more informational for both youth and adults. Please visit it at www.youth-iris.com.

Bruce Filardi, outgoing editor of the *Bulletin*, has supported AIS youth by always making sure that pictures, essays, and articles about and by youth members find space in the *Bulletin*.

Cindy Rust has been in charge of the AIS Youth pen pal program for years. It was Cindy who set up youth members with a pen pal when they requested one, and also was the Youth Chair for Region 18. She was instrumental in the successful involvement of youth members at the AIS Convention in St. Louis, along with ...

Jean Morris, my predecessor, who brought AIS youth to the notice of many in AIS and campaigned relentlessly for more funding and involvement in not only local clubs but regional activities. Jean always had the support of her husband, Jim, who was the first person to donate to the newly created General Youth Fund, and is one of the biggest behind-the-scene supporters of AIS youth. Their involvement with the Classroom Iris Projects at the Southview School was one of the biggest and most successful CIPs in the nation.

Others who have been a tremendous support are Judy Keisling, Don & Ginny Spoon, and many other hybridizers who have donated rhizomes to youth members.

Thank you! 

Section Happenings

Jim Morris, Section Liaison Consultant

When I first began writing this column in October, 2005, I was hopeful that it would become a conduit to formally devote space to the reporting of much of the incredibly interesting things going on in our nine Sections as well as our two Cooperating Societies. I also asked for information help from each of these iris groups and to be placed on their respective mailing lists. Most responded but not all, and I can't print what I don't receive. I'll let the reader judge as to the effectiveness of this column vis-a-vis your expectations.

News of Interest

I welcome the Reblooming Iris Society to those who have previously responded. I truly enjoyed receipt of *The Reblooming Iris Recorder*. The Winter 2006 issue is editor Robin Shadlow's swan song and it's time for another bobble-head (see January 2007 AIS *Bulletin* issue) to step up and volunteer. Speaking of swans, a poem entitled "Fate", written by Mary Lou Swann-Young discusses the normal three weeks of iris bloom in May and then the extra stalks of "shock and awe" rebloom. Excellent pictures were displayed of 'Claire Doodle' (Nearpass/Spoon 2000 MTB), 'Zurich' (Byers 1990 TB), and 'Baby Blessed' (Zurbrigg 1979 SDB). An interesting comparison between growing irises in southwest Kansas and the Willamette Valley of Oregon by Nancy Price is indicative of the diversity of the genus. However, in her comparison, the "iris heaven" of Oregon was rated worse than Kansas in her specific discussion of weeds, gophers and moles. That surprised me.

The Median Iris Society's 50th Anniversary issue of *The Medianite* this spring will be special. I can report first hand that this will be an historic issue of 180 pages (116 planned in color!) of median iris winners, the people who started the median movement and kept it growing, and those hybridizers who have developed the median varieties you love so much. Free to members, this issue will be for sale to others at the Oklahoma City AIS convention in May 2007. And since it grew like topsy from a magazine into a small book, donations will gratefully be accepted.

The Historic Iris Preservation Society is in the planning stage for a HIPS Happening May 17, 2009, to be held following the AIS convention in Kansas City, Kansas that year. The proposed host gardens already have significant collections of historic irises but additional guest irises will be solicited in the next issue of *Roots*. Various members of

HIPS were valuable as resources to MIS during that section's development of articles for their 50th anniversary publication.

The Dwarf Iris Society reported their Symposium results in November 2006 with 'African Wine' (Kasperek 1999) placing first for the third year in succession. 'Alpine Lake' (Willott 1981) placed second, also for the third year in succession. Also in this issue is a report by Eleanor Hutchison of St. Anne, Manitoba, Canada, on MDB survival in the cold north. She talks about those that have survived three or more years in her garden with snow as their only mulch, and tabulates them by hybridizer. The report includes 39 different hybridizers from around the world.

April is right around the corner and the Society for Louisiana Irises has all their planning completed for their Convention in Lafayette, Louisiana, April 12-15, 2007. For the first time in many years this will include a bonus trip the first day to seek Louisiana irises in the wild. Their Society's journal for the winter 2006 has a "passalong", you know, an iris passed from one grower to another without name (or lost name) and which **grows**, and in turn is passed along to another, and then yet another. Author and former journal editor, Patrick O'Connor, opines, "We rightly worry that the natural habitat of Louisianas is endangered by development, agriculture and other forms of progress, but I suspect that over the long haul irises brought into the garden are far more threatened."


The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris reports that Ken Walker, society Registrar/Recorder, has taken on the responsibility of maintaining a record of each PCI registration filed with AIS Register Mike Lowe. Ken's goal is to create a photographic record to aid with identification. Both close-up and clump photos are requested to be sent to Ken Walker and Mike Lowe. A first version of this file is already available for use by members. Bob Sussman of Camarillo, California, is currently in charge of the SPCNI seed exchange.

Back to swans. *The Review* of the Society for Japanese Irises in its Fall 2006 issue contains an article on the Swan Lake Iris Garden of Sumter, South Carolina. It seems that a local businessman named Hamilton Carr Bland, having had a complete failure at landscaping his home with Japanese irises, and after consulting expert horticulturists, ordered his gardener to dig up the plants and dump them in the swamp in 1927. Well, the following spring, the irises burst into bloom and *Southern Living* magazine referred to this as a "lovely mistake." The swamp has since been developed into one of the finest botanical gardens in the United States.

Future Section Conventions

Current AIS President Jeanne Plank, once said, "Repetition is good." I intend to repeat this portion of the column each issue to help impress in the readers' minds the dates of each section or cooperating

societies' conventions.

Society for Louisiana Irises, April 12-15, 2007, Lafayette, LA
 Median Iris Society, "Prairie Gold", May 6-7, 2007, Lincoln, NE
 Society for Japanese Irises, June 2008, Kalamazoo, MI
 Siberian/Species, June 2009, Twin Cities Area, MN 

International News

Anna & David Cadd, Editors
caddsir@comcast.net

From the British Iris Society:

The British Iris Society recently announced results of the Dykes Medal Trials for 2006:


Dykes Medal: 'Alexia' (TB – C. Bartlett)

Fothergill Award: 'Nicola Fernie' (TB – B. Dodsworth)

Souvenir de M. Lémon: 'Loose Valley' (MTB – Olga Wells)

Marjorie Brummitt Award: 'Pinewood Passion' (PCI – Mrs. E. Wise)

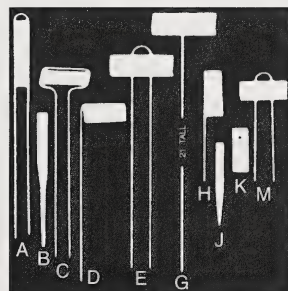
In addition, Awards of Garden Commendation were received by two additional TBs: 'Iceland Gull' (B. Dodsworth) and 'Ann Renn' (Jennifer Hewitt). Our congratulations to the hybridizers of all these successful cultivars.

The BIS also announced presentation of the Foster Memorial Plaque to Professor Maretta Colasante, the Pilkington Trophy to Hilary Towers, and the Bob Nichol Trophy to Peter Taggart. Well done, one and all! 

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Request for Guest Bearded Irises

AIS Convention, Overland Park, KS 2009

The Greater Kansas City Iris Society will host the American Iris Society Convention in May 2009. Hybridizers are invited to send rhizomes of recent bearded iris introductions and seedlings under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when sending guest irises as only officially submitted guest irises will appear in the convention booklet.

We request between two to four rhizomes of each variety with a limit of 50 total rhizomes per hybridizer. Master plantings will be at Powell Gardens and the KSU Research Center. Plants will be accepted from July 9 through September 15, 2007; July 30th through August 25th preferred. Ship plants to:

Jerry Hoke: 9015 Carter Circle: Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 381-5042 e-mail: jhoke@everestkc.net

The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each plant. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a separate packing list:

- Hybridizer's name, address, phone number and email address.
- Name or seedling number of the variety
- Type of iris (IB, AB, TB, etc)
- Height, color, distinguishing features and bloom season (E-M-L)
- Year of introduction if applicable.
- A photograph or digital image of the bloom will be helpful.

If a guest seedling is later named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman by December 1, 2008.

A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the disposition of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2009, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and distribute named varieties, one to garden owners and the rest to the Greater Kansas City Iris Society for distribution to Region 18 Clubs. Returns will be sent freight paid except for foreign addresses.

The Convention Committee and the owners of tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.


TB Blind Seedling Judging

To provide an opportunity for hybridizers to have their work

evaluated without bias for a particular hybridizer, the Greater Kansas City Iris Society and Powell Gardens will sponsor an exclusive "blind seedling" competition. Entries will be limited to 100 Tall Bearded iris seedlings and will be planted in a special test bed at Powell Gardens.

Hybridizers are invited to send one seedling rhizome for this competition with the understanding that it will not be considered for introduction until after 2009.

Seedlings submitted for this competition will be identified by entry number only and will be used for judges' training during the convention. Judges will be encouraged to point score these plants and all attendees will be asked to vote on the one they feel is the best.

Hybridizers are asked to submit rhizomes for this competition using the same guidelines previously stated and be clear in their communication as to which plant is to be in the blind test planting. All plants will be destroyed if disposition is not received by June 15, 2009. 

IRIS INTRODUCTIONS FROM DAVE NISWONGER FOR 2007

ESKIMO LAND (Niswonger '07), TB, Sdlg. 4-03: Patton Snowfall X Tracking Rabbits. 40" (102 cm), Mid. Whites with green tones continue to be of interest. Here is another one with three to four blooms open at one time and plenty of buds on strong stalks. It stands up to rain well exhibiting good substance and great vigor. The beard is near white with tips of yellow. Fertile both ways.....\$45.00

WALKING WILD (Niswonger '07), TB, Sdlg. 42-00: Rear View Mirror X Crowned Heads. 36" (91 cm), Mid. A reverse amoena type with the falls near white and the standards blue. Probably the most vigorous from this cross. It won the Best seedling twice (2000 and 2002) and an EC in 2006 in the SEMO Iris Society shows. It has 8 to 9 buds with three open at one time, well branched and hearty. Fertile both ways. The name was supplied by Joy Seckler from Green field, TN.\$45.00

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Questions & Anthers

Q: What does it mean when someone says that an iris is "hafty"? Is that a good thing or a bad thing? And why?

From Keith Keppel, Oregon:

A "hafty" iris is one which has haft marks. What are haft marks? They are markings on the narrowed fall portion which adjoins the wider portion ("blade") of the fall. What is their function? In all probability these lines serve as guide lines to potential pollinators. Lines are found on nearly all wild irises.

But irisarians are now the prime pollinators of many irises. Do these lines guide us? We have our own notions as to how an iris bloom should look, and one of these notions is "different". Rather than more of the same, we want something distinctive. If "all irises have haft marks", we try to develop blooms with no (or at least less obtrusive) haft marks. For well over half a century, breeders obsessed on obtaining smooth-hafted tall bearded seedlings.

A parallel situation comes to mind in the dwarfs. With *Iris pumila*, the parental stocks first available to breeders in this country had a darker concentration of color in the center of the falls – the "pumila spot". In first generation crosses with tall bearded, which yielded "lilliputs" as the delightful standard dwarfs were originally called, most seedlings retained the spot, or at least a definite vestige of spot-site markings. After a few seedling generations of solid spots and shadowed spots and lined spots, the breeders strived for NO spot, for a spotless lilliput would be "different".

Breeders were successful, and many spotless, self-colored standard dwarfs came onto the market. In this case, it took only a few years to realize that "spots are good", and ever since then hybridizers have worked on both spots and spotless, giving us a wide range of choices.

With tall bearded, new irisarians saw mostly smooth-hafted varieties, so when they made wide crosses and got tiger-scratched wild-hafted seedlings, they were elated. Something new!! Actually, something old put onto a more modern-formed flower.

So, are these untamed haft patterns good or bad? They do add a different dimension to the garden scene. The question is, are they "haft marks" (generally considered undesirable) or "pattern" (which in reality may be nothing but haft marks)? Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

Plicatas have markings on the haft also, but they are part of what is


generally a grander plan, expanding marked territory along petal margins and possibly elsewhere. Plicatas crossed to selfs often, but not always, give striped hafts. Whereas for generations selfs were selected for smoothness, how could you select plicatas for haft smoothness? The truer sign of a plic outcross is a paling adjacent to the beard, perhaps a "spray" pattern rather than lines.

Both haft markings and plicata markings are expressed in anthocyanin (water soluble) pigments. If you want a truly totally mark-free haft, you need to breed for anthocyanin-free flowers, such as glaciatas, the pattern-free segregates which occur in some plicata crosses.

So what's the bottom line on haft lines? No iris is good or bad just because it does or doesn't have them; it's the total effect that counts. Let's have diversity, but let's also have discretion in selection.

Q: Just a culture question. Last year the Bulletin Editor mentioned his successful use of Ronstar as a pre-emergent weedkiller. Is it safe to spread within the iris beds themselves? How near the rhizomes can it be put down? I've been using for a while now and definitely note the difference, except just around the iris plants themselves. Most of my beds are raised (RR ties) so it's easy to control.

From Bruce Filardi, Oregon:

I use it right on the iris beds, don't worry about it getting on the plants. My feeling is that it prevents GERMINATION, but irises (other than their seeds, of course!) don't germinate; they reproduce vegetatively... And I've had no problem with Ronstar in that area. However, I have found that if I overuse it, it can cause some short-term problems, so I would suggest that you don't use it any more heavily than the label recommends. Hope this helps! 

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An Oklahoma Centennial Celebration

Paul Gossett, Convention Liaison

You are invited to celebrate the 100th birthday of Oklahoma, the 46th state to join the United States in 1907. WE WANT YOU TO COME TO OKLAHOMA CITY to celebrate the state's Centennial!

Oklahoma's recorded history began in 1541 when Spanish explorer Coronado visited the area on his quest for the "Lost City of Gold." Oklahoma was originally a part of the Louisiana Purchase and in 1803 the United States purchased the Louisiana Purchase for \$15 million dollars from France while Thomas Jefferson was President.

In the 1820s, the Five Civilized Tribes from the southeastern part of the United States were relocated to Indian Territory over numerous routes, the most famous being the Cherokee "Trail of Tears." Today, Indians from at least 70 tribes call Oklahoma their home.

Western expansion reached the territory in the late 1800s, bringing with it a controversy over the fate of the land. Under much pressure from various groups, primarily a group known as the "Boomers", the United States government decided to open the western parts of the territory to settlers by holding a total of six land runs between 1889 and 1895. People from all over the nation as well as from Poland, Ireland, the Slavic nations and also African-Americans participated in the run for land.

On November 16, 1907, Oklahoma became the 46th state. Statehood had become a sure thing, in part due to a discovery which made Oklahoma the "place to go to strike it rich" -- oil. People came from all parts of the world to seek their fortunes in Oklahoma's oil fields. Cities like Tulsa, Ponca City, Bartlesville, and Oklahoma City flourished.

Come join the Oklahoma Iris Society in hosting the 2007 AIS Convention, and at the same time celebrate Oklahoma's 100th birthday from April 30 through May 5, 2007.

You will be visiting nine gardens, three of which will be public gardens: Oklahoma State University of Oklahoma City, the State Capitol, and Will Rogers Iris Garden. You will also be visiting six various size home gardens.

Your hotel will be the beautiful Oklahoma City Marriott on Northwest Expressway; room rate is \$93. + tax. It is located in a central location with access to all the gardens.

While you are in Oklahoma you might consider visiting Guthrie, the first capitol of Oklahoma; Ponca City has the Pioneer Woman Statue and Marland Mansion; Tulsa has Gilcrease and Philbrook Museums; Lawton has Fort Sill, established in 1869 and still a working Army base today. Oklahoma City has the Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum (created to honor those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever by the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building), Oklahoma State Capitol Building with its new dome, the Myriad Botanical Gardens, and Bricktown. There are many other attractions to visit throughout the state, so we hope you take the time to tour the beautiful state of Oklahoma.

We have had adequate moisture this year after going through a very dry winter in 2005-2006, so the gardens are getting ready to put on a show for you with their beautiful bloom.

I can promise you good food, Oklahoma hospitality, beautiful gardens, wonderful people, and a birthday celebration that was 100 years in the making. Go to the AIS Web Site at www.irises.org under Conventions/Activities for information and a registration form for the convention.

Hope to see you in Oklahoma City at the 2007 AIS Convention.

O-K-L-A-H-O-M-A. Oklahoma is OK! 

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 fwm3115@peoplepc.com

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 Oklahoma City, OK 73112
 (405) 842-6633

2008: April 14-19

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 710 North 11th
 Temple, TX 76501-3016
 (254) 773-5017
 jimlanders43@hotmail.com

and: Pat Byrne
 (281) 391-6190
 patb1@consolidated.net

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 smgrigg@bellsouth.net

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2008: Oct 31 – Nov 2

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The Brummitts of Banbury

George Waters, Oregon/California

During a visit to my Oregon City garden in 2005, Will Plotner was intrigued by a plant of the Pacific Coast hybrid iris ‘Sugar Candy’. Bloom season for the year was well behind us, so I described the flower for him, and added a little information from my personal acquaintance with the raiser, Marjorie Brummitt. “Write it up,” Will said. Here, then, is what I remember from thirty-five years ago, when I occasionally visited the Brummitt home in Branbury.

Branbury is a market town in Oxfordshire famous for its ancient stone cross, towards which monument is urged, by nursery rhyme, to ride “a cock-horse:”

*Ride a cock-horse to Banbury Cross,
To see a fine lady upon a white horse,
Rings on her fingers and bells on her toes,
She shall have music wherever she goes.*

Gammer Gurton’s Garland (1784)

(The cock-horse may be a rocking horse, or a broom handle for make-believe. It may also refer to a tall, or high horse, or someone of proud bearing or exultant manner.)

The original Banbury cross was destroyed by the Puritans, and what one sees now is a reproduction. It is at the junction of West Bar and South Bar, near the Horse Fair at the town center. Banbury is also famous for its cakes: flattened, circular pastry envelopes filled with cookie crumbs and dried fruit. A 17th century cake shop near the market place, on Parson’s Street, still sells the cakes. A number of old inns and houses also remain in the town.

The Brummitts, Leonard and Marjorie, lived on Bloxham Road, the road from Banbury to Chipping Norton and the Cotswold Hills. The garden was small, and contained two greenhouses of Leonard’s orchids, which, so far as I could see, were mostly species. However, he raised several medal-winning hybrid orchids: paphiopedilums were his main interest. The majority of the Brummitt irises were on rented land a few hundred yards further along Bloxham Road. There I saw Leonard’s acre or so of tall bearded irises, among them ‘Primrose Drift’, which won the Dykes Memorial Medal in 1964. From that same field had come two earlier Dykes Memorial Medal winners: ‘Golden Alps’ in 1957, and ‘Headlines’ in 1959. Leonard was one of the few British

hybridizers to have irises listed in American nursery catalogs. Forming a fringe around the bearded irises were clumps of Siberians – Marjorie’s other hybridizing interest.

Marjorie’s Pacific Coast natives were not in the field; they were grown in the garden at home, where they formed an edging to the path from the gate to the front door. She said that new plants grew in the surrounding soil from insect-pollinated seed; her task was simply to select from these “volunteers” those she deemed most worthy. The Check List published by the Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises, however, gives details in some of the Banbury entries that suggest deliberate choice of parents.

Plants selected by Marjorie for naming satisfied several criteria, including poise, freedom of flower, and suitability in flower arranging. Larger flowers were of little interest, but she did enjoy finding unusual colors. Her ‘Banbury Velvet’ and ‘Banbury Gnome’ with dark, velvety falls were much admired by Joe Ghio, and, I believe, used in his own breeding program. Her *Iris innominata* selection, aptly named ‘No Name’, was awarded the Dykes Memorial Medal in 1976.

Marjorie’s talent for arranging was well demonstrated at British Iris Society shows, where she inevitably staged delightful clusters in modest containers. At the Society’s fiftieth anniversary show, Marjorie spread her winds and filled a whole table, appropriately covered in golden velvet, with innumerable arrangements of Pacific Coast hybrid irises. AIS President Clarke Cosgrove, writing in the 1972 British Iris Society *Year Book*, described the display as “magnificent.” And Bebe Paciani, one of five visitors from Italy at the show, in the same publication called it “exquisite.” There is a photo of Marjorie and her husband Leonard at the show, with the visiting judge from Italy, Count Pauer d’Ankerfeld, in which a corner of her remarkable exhibit is included.



Marjorie Brummitt and Candy

Candy was a dog that Marjorie and Leonard found abandoned and sadly neglected. They adopted the dog and returned it to good health. It became a devoted pet, trotting beside them wherever they walked. It is for Candy that the iris 'Sugar Candy' is named. A photograph reproduced on the occasion of the award to Marjorie of Honorary Life Membership in SPCNI shows her with the faithful Candy. It is in the Society's *Almanac* for Spring 1977. On the facing page is Marjorie's own account of the beginning of the Banbury strain of Pacific Coast Native Irises.

The term "Banbury strain" could just as well apply to Leonard Brummitt's tall bearded irises, for he has registered several with names that include Banbury: 'Banbury Carnival' and 'Banbury Rainbow', for example, both registered in 1972.

This little account of an extraordinary husband-and-wife team of medal-winning irisarians leads me to mention a small matter that may, among future generations of gardeners, cause misunderstanding: check lists that give only the raiser's name with no initial may leave readers in doubt about an iris's origins, and are likely to perpetuate error. The Brummitts provide us with a fine example of what may happen when no indication is given that distinguishes, in this case, between husband and wife, both raising irises that are widely distributed. Error is more likely to arise over Marjorie's Siberian iris hybrids, best known of which is 'Cambridge', winner of the Dykes Memorial Medal in 1972, and

'Anniversary', which earned her another in 1979; her work among the Pacific Coast natives is too well known to be attributed to her husband, even by still-distant future generations.

Leonard died in 1981, and his obituary appears in that year's *British Iris Society Year Book*. Marjorie died seven years later, and her obituary appears in the 1988 *Year Book*.



Marjorie Brummitt (center) and Leonard Brummitt (right)

The AIS 2007 Photo Contest

AIS is again giving photographers a chance to share pictures and win prizes. This contest is open to everyone and is free to enter, except judges and the contest chairperson are not eligible to enter or win. The winning photo of each category will be published in the AIS *Bulletin* and on the AIS web site. **The winner of each category will receive a 2007 introduction from the Oklahoma Iris Society (AIS Convention host).** The winner of each category will also receive a single annual membership or annual membership extension to AIS. Winners who are AIS life members will receive an annual membership in an AIS Section of their choice. Runners-up in each category will receive a 2005-2006 introduction.

How to Enter:

Simply fill out the entry form and send it with your photos to AIS at the address below. You may submit up to five photos in one contest. The deadline for submissions to the 2007 Photo Contest is **June 30, 2007**. Entries will be selected and judged in six (6) categories:

1. Irises used in a landscaped garden.
2. Irises in a field or home garden.
3. Events, tours, a person or people (at iris location), shows.
4. Close up of an iris or irises.
5. Photos with art effects, macro photos of bloom segments, photos of pets or wildlife in the irises.
6. Any category taken by a youth photographer (under 19).

Please do not send any photo smaller than 4 x 6 inches, nor larger than 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 (half page). The ideal size is 5 x 7. If you are using a digital camera, it is suggested that you take your photos in 360dpi or higher resolution, and we ask that you print and submit your photos on photo paper. Please avoid writing or labeling on the back of the photo, unless to identify a variety or person in the photo.

A panel of three judges will judge photos received and their decisions will be final. At the discretion of the judges, photos not selected in the current contest may be held for further consideration in future contests. Please provide AIS with a self-addressed stamped envelope if you want the photos returned. Photos will otherwise not be returned and may be destroyed when not selected.

Where to send your photos and entry:

The American Iris Society Photo Contest, c/o Kitty Loberg, 1900 Mountain View Lane, Redwood Valley, CA 95470; Send inquiries to loberg@adelphia.net.

Entry Form:

Photo caption name(s) and names of persons in photos, if any (for reference purposes)

#1 _____

#2 _____

#3 _____

#4 _____

#5 _____

Youth: If this is a **youth** entry, please tell us your age: _____

I am the person who took the photographs(s) enclosed, and I have not assigned any of my rights associated with these photographs to any third party. By entering the photo contest I am hereby authorizing The American Iris Society a royalty free, non-exclusive right to use winning photograph(s) and photograph(s) worthy of honorable mention in publications, in brochures and calendars, on the Internet, and for other promotional uses.

Signature _____


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(Receipt of photos will be acknowledged by email. Please provide a SASE if you want a receipt by mail.) 



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ANNA'S ANGELS (C. Rumbaugh) MTB, TET, 22" M. Grand daughters namesake, bright white self with tipped beards, stately form with 7-10 buds. A two year old clump will give you a "Band of Angels" with show stalks. EC
Sdlg. CKR-4: Abridged Version X Lido Ladynet \$20.00

DODGER (L. Miller) MTB 24", ML. This one dodged the hail stones. Standards and styles are golden-yellow. Falls are white edged golden-yellow veined iridescent red-violet with a thumbprint of light red-violet at the bottom of the white center. 9 buds.
Sdlg. 10603A: Just a Wish X Yellow Flirtnet \$20.00

SURVIVOR (L. Miller) MTB 23", ML. Survived a great hail storm in 2006 to show off its 12-16 buds. Standards are rich caramel, styles are tinted red-brown on the lip. Round Falls are full violet-purple with a wire edge of caramel. Yellow-orange beards.
Sdlg. 1703A: Bangles X Tykenet \$20.00

BOILERMAKER (L. Miller) TB 34", M. Named for our Purdue customers, this iris got the named because it was the closest to Purdue colors. Standards and styles are butter yellow. Falls are red-black with a few white lines around golden bronze beards. 7 buds.
Sdlg. 1403B: Piano Man X Dark Passion net \$40.00

HOLOGRAM (L. Miller) TB 32", ML. Standards are pale cream, styles are creamy yellow. Falls are lavender washed iridescent violet washed gold ate the hafts giving this iris its name, the color seems to change in the wind.
Sdlg. 31602B: Lovie Dovie X Awakeningnet \$40.00

HOOSIER DOME (L. Miller) TB 36", ML. Named after the Colts stadium's original name, like the dome the Standards are white brushed light plum at the base. Falls are plum paling to lavender at the edges. Pale blue beard. 11 buds.
Sdlg. 11103: Startled X Time Goes Bynet \$40.00

INDIANA DREAMS (L. Miller) TB 36", E. Upright Standards are full blue, dotted over white center. Styles are blue and buff yellow. Falls are wide rimmed purple with purple veins in the center of white accented by orange and white beards. 7-8 buds. Sdlg. 1203A: {[Little Much X Planet Iris) X Conjunction] X Piano Man} X Winning Ticketnet \$40.00

MIDWEST FAREWELL (L. Miller) TB 42", M. Pale orchid washed buff yellow Standards sit atop very round deep plum red-violet Falls with paler borders. Small horns extend from the pale blue tipped yellow-orange beards bordered by white spray lines.
Sdlg. 2500A: [(Little Much X Planet Iris) X Conjunction] X Piano Mannet \$40.00

WEISS GUY (C. Rumbaugh) TB 32", M. "Punky" name for an iris but it fits. White self with well balanced branching. Beards are yellow to white tips. Ruffled Falls, strong stalks, slight musky fragrance, 7 buds. EC
Sdlg. CKR-1: Silverado X Laced Cottonnet \$40.00

Add \$6.00 for shipping. Send \$3 for a descriptive catalog (some color).

Dr. Hosack's Irises:

The Elgin Botanic Garden, 1801-1811

Anner M. Whitehead, Virginia

The duelists met shortly after seven on the morning of July 11, 1804. The dawn had been misty, but a midsummer's sun was rising as the bargemen shoved off from the secluded dueling grounds on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River. They had moored, and waited, as for a century others had also waited, at the shore below the Heights of Weehawken, an elevated natural shelf on the face of the cliffs known as the Palisades. It was a notorious place, a stony ledge inaccessible by land, narrow, desolate, and imbrued with sorrow. There, gentlemen, in defiance of the law, but with elaborate ceremony, met to resolve their affairs of honor by attempting to kill each other.

That day, the wounded man in the boat was Alexander Hamilton, formerly first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and by anyone's reckoning a founding father of the new republic. A ball from a dueling pistol fired by Aaron Burr, sitting Vice President of the country,



Steel engraving of David Hosack by Asher Durand.
After the portrait by Thomas Sully

having first coursed through his abdomen, was lodged in the spine. Hamilton understood his to be a mortal injury, as did the physician attending him. Nevertheless, having hastened his unconscious patient onto the water for benefit of the cooling air, he began rubbing spirits of hartshorn onto Hamilton's temples and nostrils in an effort to restore respiration and a pulse as the bargemen, their eyes averted, rowed with utmost speed towards the dock at Greenwich Village. Hamilton died the following day.

Alexander Hamilton's

physician was David Hosack, of Manhattan, 1769-1836. A man of many affiliations, gregarious, progressive, ambitious, and controversial, Dr. Hosack was, on that dismal day at Weehawken, nearing his thirty-fifth birthday. In addition to maintaining a lucrative practice among the city's social and political elite, and teaching medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, he held the appointment of Professor of Botany and *Materia Medica* at Columbia College. He was also a Fellow of the Linnaean Society of London, and, not incidentally, the founder of the Elgin Botanic Garden, established in 1801 on the outskirts of the city, and named for his father's birthplace in Scotland. In this article we shall revisit Dr. Hosack's garden, the first public institution of its kind in the United States, and document the irises in his collection

David Hosack's interest in botany arose during a visit to Great Britain. After graduating in 1789 from what is now Princeton University, and receiving his degree from the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, he went abroad to hone his professional skills and garner distinction. He had observed that American doctors who had studied in Europe were held in higher esteem than those who had not; accordingly, he made his way to Edinburgh, then a city of enormous sophistication and the center of the medical world. Following this, he sojourned in London. Over two years, beginning in 1792, he undertook a rigorous course of lectures, clinical studies, and private instruction in subjects he deemed useful in the profession in which he fully intended to excel. He also cultivated interesting social connections. So it was that at a dinner party in Scotland he became aware that the study of botany, in addition to its medical utility, was considered an essential part of a gentleman's education. Finding himself "*mortified by my ignorance of botany, with which other guests were conversant, I resolved, at that time, whenever an opportunity might offer, to acquire a knowledge of that department of science.*"

And he was most fortunate in his opportunities. The brilliant young physician attracted the attention of influential men who encouraged him, tutored him, and introduced him around. One of these was the venerable apothecary William Curtis, author of the *Flora Londinensis* and founder of the *Botanical Magazine*, who had just built his botanic garden at Brompton, in which he instructed his pupils. Of this unique experience, Christine Chapman Robbins, Dr. Hosack's biographer, wrote, "*After a few months with Curtis, Hosack would have had a better fundamental training in the elements of botany than was available at that time in any college in the United States.*" Sir James Edward Smith became a notably generous and abiding friend. He had purchased the Linnaean

KEITH KEPPEL
P. O. BOX 18154 SALEM, OR 97305
INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2007

TALL BEARDED

- BLOWING KISSES** ML 40" (Mild Manner X My Ginny) Romantically feminine, with clear pink firmly-upright standards, showing off the pink styles to advantage. Flaring orchid pink falls have a paler area below the coral pink and white beards. Good branching. #00-198A. **\$45.00**
- BOLLYWOOD** ML 42" (Lydia Safan-Swistyn X Sea Power) Ruffly silken pastel, with domed light yellow standards and soft lavender blue falls edged buff yellow and touched sulphine yellow at the shoulders. Yellow beards, well-branched stalks, good bud count. #00-257F. **\$50.00**
- MERCHANT MARINE** M 38" (Yaquina Blue X (Sea Power x Rippling River)) Heavy substance, heavy ruffling. Slightly deeper and bluer than Sea Power, with inconspicuous yellow and pale blue beards. Good branching and bud count. #00-261A. **\$45.00**
- MERCURY RISING** L 36" (Starship Enterprise X Braggadocio) L 36" The heat is on! Torrid bright yellow standards match the big blaze on oxblood falls. Cadmium yellow beards. Lightly waved, semi-flaring. Moderate branching. #98-159D. **\$45.00**
- RAGING TIDE** ML 38" (Sea Power X ((Spring Shower x ((Snowbrook x Blackout) x Honky Tonk Blues)) x Rite of Spring)) Large flowers with swirling, frothy ruffles. Medium blue standards blending to pale blue toward edges, pale blue falls blending medium blue toward the center. Beards light blue, tipped yellow in the throat. #99-84A. **\$50.00**
- ROYAL MAJESTY** ML 45" ((Smart Move x Romantic Evening) X Diabolique) Large, regal, dark huckleberry purple with a blackish sheen spreading across the shoulders. Dark beards purple to blackish brown and bronze. Ruffled, with falls strongly flared. #99-139E. **\$45.00**
- VERSAILLES** M 40" (Balderdash X Last Laugh) Pale blue to blue white standards, medium blue falls with a pale, almost white, area to either side of the cadmium orange to flame beards. Ruffled and waved. Sib to Parisian Dawn. #99-45B. **\$45.00**

BORDER BEARDED

- SNAZZY** L 27" (((Witch's Wand x Witches' Sabbath) x Romantic Evening) X sib) Perky dark violet with subtle blackish velvet shoulder sheen. Bright golden orange beards make your eyes snap to attention. Heavy ruffling, slightly open standards. #99-137A. **\$25.00**

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

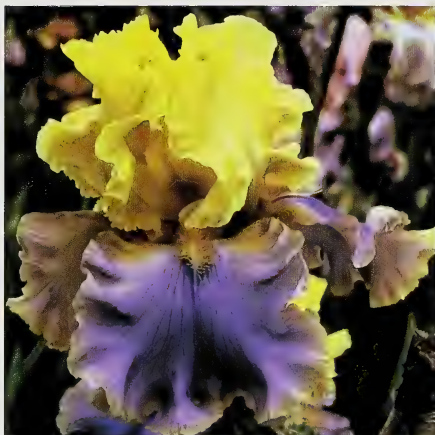
- LIMONADA** M 26" ((Spirit World x Answered Prayers) X Brash) Bright lemon yellow, with the extreme clarity as expected from a glaciata. Lemon to cadmium beards. Makes a good mass effect. #99-32A. **\$15.00**

.....and **GYPSY LORD**, our favorite TB introduction from 2006. . . **\$30.00**

Add \$7.00 for shipping and handling. Priority Mail shipment, July or August.
 Catalogue \$2.00, refundable with order.



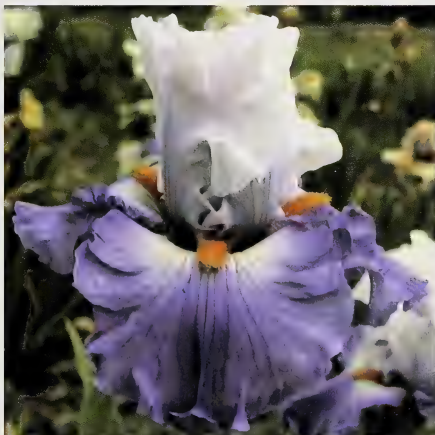
'Raging Tide'



'Bollywood'



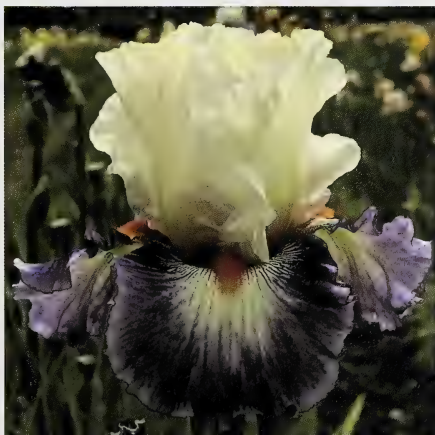
'Merchant Marine'



'Versailles'



'Snazzy'



'Gypsy Lord'

2007 Introductions from Bruce Filardi

On this page you will find my four introductions for 2007. I am particularly proud of 'Banana Cream Pie' for its form and personality, and 'Queen Empress' for its unique pattern. It is possible that these will be the last irises that I introduce. I hope they will bring great pleasure to gardeners in all parts of the country.



BANANA CREAM PIE (Filardi '07) TB, 30" (76 cm), M. The standards are white, and the rounded falls are cream with a distinct band of yellow. Heavily ruffled and excellent growth, quickly forms a beautiful clump. Sdlg. #BF-

203A: (Smiling Faces X Kiwi Cheesecake)



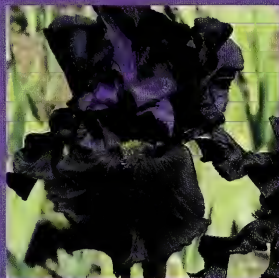
ENCHANTED CIRCLE (Filardi '07) TB, 34" (86 cm), L. Standards are white, edged very pale blue; the falls are white with a wide, contrasting edge of Moorish blue. Beautiful color combination and great garden

presence. Sdlg. #BF-191A: (Seakist X Conjunction)



QUEEN EMPRESS (Filardi '07) TB, 32" (81 cm), ML. A new direction in the "Quandary/Puccini" pattern of lines and speckles on the falls. White standards over white falls which are sanded in wine-red below the

beard, and bright yellow shoulders to give the flower a glowing appearance. What makes this one unique is the wine-colored speckling, unlike the usual blue-violet. Sdlg. #BF-322A: (Venetian Love X Puccini)



TWILIGHT TEAR (Filardi '07) TB, 38" (97 cm), M. A refined and dignified iris, with satiny dark blue-violet standards over velvety black falls, contrasted by dark beards with bright gold tips. Sdlg. #BF-181A:

(Paint It Black X Romantic Evening)

2006 Introductions

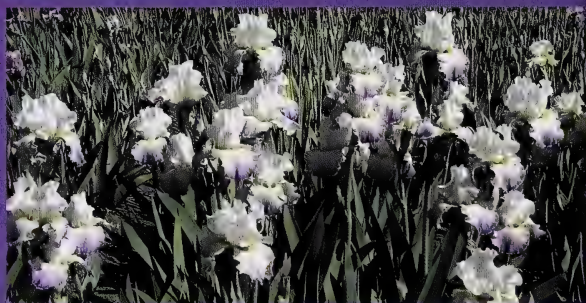


Far left: 'Pewter and Gold'

Left: 'Some Enchanted Evening'

Available from:

Aitken's Salmon Creek
608 NW 109th Street
Vancouver, WA 98685
aitken@flowerfantasy.net



'Queen Empress' at 2006 National Convention, Portland

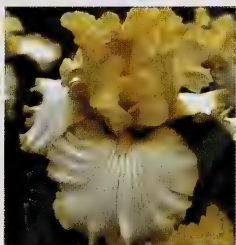


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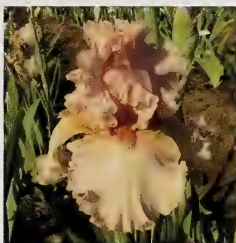
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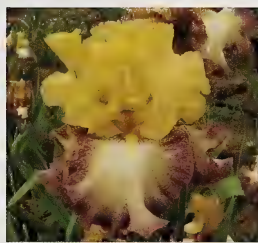
Check It Out (L. Lauer)



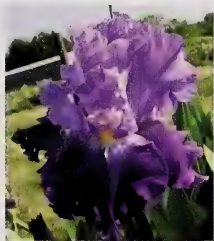
Come Go With Me (L. Lauer)



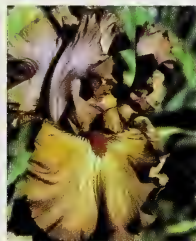
Dancing In The Street (L. Lauer)



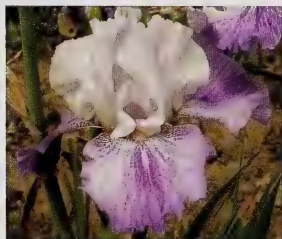
Grain Exchange (Ragle)



Grape Parfait (M. Lauer)



Indian Sunset (L. Lauer)

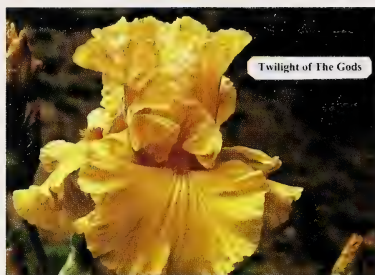


One Way Ticket (L. Lauer)

These Tall Bearded Irises are \$40.00 each. *If ordering from this ad, please include \$7.00 for postage and handling (California residents add 7.75% sales tax). Send \$1.00 for a catalog of previous introductions and newer irises at bargain prices.*

Fan's Iris Garden

14 Chestnut Drive
East Windsor, NJ 08520
609-448-7964



Twilight of The Gods

TWILIGHT OF THE GODS

(Fan 2007) TB, M, 41" (104 cm)
(Act of Kindness X Leading Light)
4 branches, 8 to 9 buds +. Show stalks!
Vigorous grower, knockout clump.
Magnificent Orange. Limited stock. \$40.



My Tina

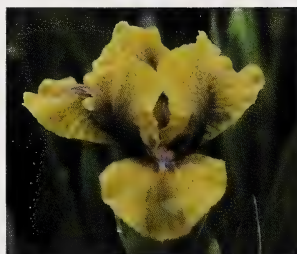
MY TINA (Fan 2007) TB, M, 37" (94 cm)
(Happenstance X Martile Rowland)
3 or 4 branches, many buds, beautiful
stalks. Good grower. Fantastic pink!
Limited stock. \$40.

Postage and handling are included in
the above prices. Make check payable
to Chun Fan.

Abbey Gardens

2007 Introductions
From Nancy Price

WHEAT FIELDS (N. Price) Sdlg 03-009E, SDB,
12" (30 cm), M. Standards amber yellow, dark
red-brown at base; falls amber yellow,
light rust-red rays; beards light blue-violet,
amber yellow in throat. (Starlight Waltz X
Alene's New Love)\$15.00



DOVER ROYALTY (N. Price) Sdlg 03-045D,
SDB, 13" (33 cm), M. Standards light plum;
falls dark plum, light plum rim; beards
yellow, plum at base. (Spanish Rainbows X
Rainbow Rim)\$15.00

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503-829-2928
flags@molalla.net

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Include \$5 for shipping
www.abbeygardens.name

Fan's Iris Garden

14 Chestnut Drive
East Windsor, NJ 08520
609-448-7964



EWA PODLES (Bushnell 2007) TB, M, 35" (89 cm)

(Wild Wings X Princesse Caroline de Monaco)

Strong, beautifully branched stalks sport 7 – 9 buds. Vigorous grower.

Magnificent red-bearded purple. Named to honor the great Polish contralto.

We are honored that this iris will be grown in the gardens at Frederic Chopin's birthplace in Poland. Limited stock. \$40.

JONATHAN PERETZ (Bushnell 2007) TB, E, 35" (89 cm)

(Martile Rowland X Nordica)

Strong, beautifully branched stalks, 7 to 8 buds. Vigorous grower, superb clump. Note golden heart and large tangerine, not red, beards. Gorgeous!

Limited stock. \$40.



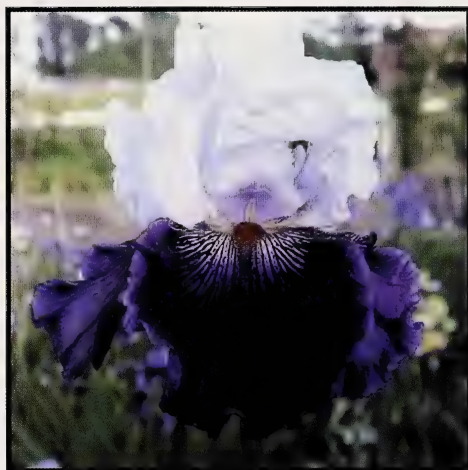
Postage and handling are included in the above prices.

Make check payable to Chun Fan.

MY WILD IRIS ROWS

**Ross & Barbara BeVier
4919 Rincon Ave
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(707) 537-6825**

2007 INTRODUCTION BY JIM BEGLEY



AMERICAN PRIDE

\$40

2005

Best Seedling AIS Spring Show
Santa Rosa, CA

Please check our website for more information:

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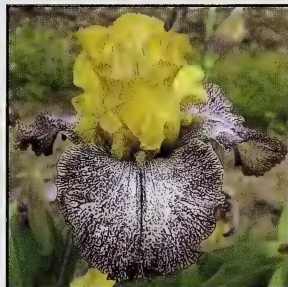
INTRODUCING FOR 2007



GRAND CLASSIC

\$45 or 3/\$90

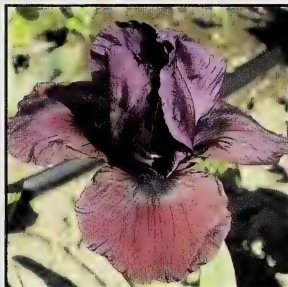
(Tasco '07) TB, 40", M.
Dream Express X Ennoble



TEMPORAL ANOMALY

\$45 or 3/\$90

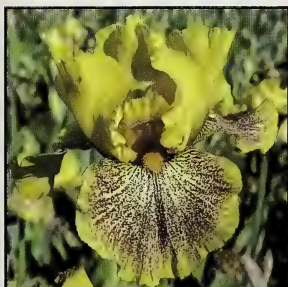
(Tasco '07) TB, 38", M.
Tennessee Woman X sib to
Celestial Explosion



CHAIN REACTION

\$20 or 3/\$40

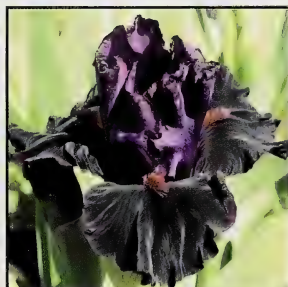
(Tasco '07) AB-med
(OGB-)/RE, 13",
EML/RE. SDB/RE sdlg X
Concerto Grosso



MAGIC QUEST

\$25 or 3/\$50

(Tasco '07) BB, 26", EM.
Sonoran Sands X
(Splashacata x Rustic
Dance)



DARK FORCES

\$20 or 3/\$40

(Tasco '07) IB, 23", M.
Romantic Evening X
Minidragon



SPARKLING

\$20 or 3/\$40

(Tasco '07) IB, 25", M.
Mind Reader X Iced Wine

ALSO INTRODUCING: WISHMASTER (Tasco 2007) UNGUICULARIS 14", EML. Very large (5½") fragrant lavender flowers....(call for price)

INTRODUCTION SPECIAL: All 6 bearded intros (no Wishmaster), a \$175 value for only \$120. IRIS CLUBS—buy 1 intro special for \$120, get another complete set as your THANK YOU GIFT!

IF ORDERING FROM THIS AD: shipping \$7.50; CA residents add 7.75% tax

SUPERSTITION

IRIS GARDENS

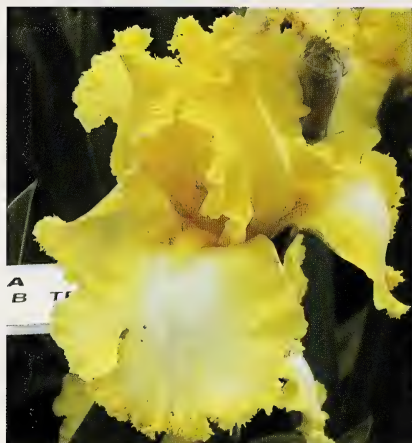
Superstition Iris Gardens

2536 Old Highway (Dept A7)
Cathey's Valley CA 95306-9738
phone 209-966-6277

e-mail <randrcv@sierratel.com>
<http://community.webshots.com/user/rickt103>

2006 seedlings: part 2

Riley Probst & Shirely Trio, Missouri/California



D-27-A



JT-125C



M263B

Picking up where we left off in the January issue of the *Bulletin*, we are commenting on some of the outstanding seedlings we observed during the 2006 iris bloom season. There of course are too many to list them all. So we hope no one feels slighted that theirs was not mentioned. Continuing on with the parade of seedlings:

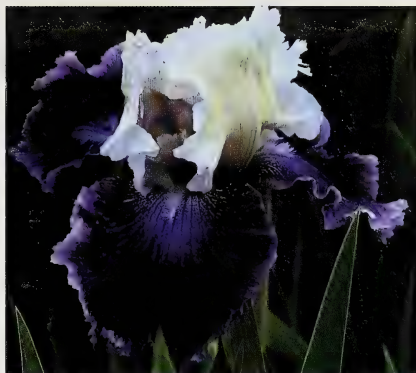
D-27-A is a TB by Ben Johnson. Ben, who at this time is best known for 'Heartstring Strummer', is from Springfield, MO, which is where Riley grew up. This beautiful laced yellow with a white blaze on the falls was seen in the Cooley's Garden.

JT-125C is by Tom Johnson, another well-known Johnson hybridizer (there are several). We thought Ben Johnson's seedling had a lot of lace, which it does, until we saw this one by Tom Johnson. It is a light purple TB with orange beards. Both the standards and falls have about 3/8 inch of heavy lace and the falls are overlapping.

M263B is a beautiful creation by Paul Black. The standards are white and the overlapping falls are lavender white with golden orange veining on the shoulders which changes to lavender as they run down the falls; lit up with a bright

orange beard. This outstanding TB seedling has lace around the entire ruffled flower.

99-3-A by Leroy Meininger from Nebraska has near white standards over purple falls. The near overlapping falls have a lighter area in the center and a much lighter 1/8 inch band entirely around the ruffled falls. The beard is lavender white. This TB seedling stood out at both Cooley's and Mid-America Gardens.



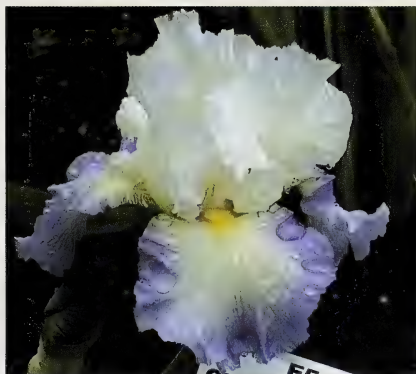
99-3-A

99AX by Bob Van Lier from Colorado is a TB with standards of tannish lavender. The falls are lavender with golden brown hafts. The style arms are creamy white above the beard which is golden at the heart turning to a bluish purple which ends in a pointed horn. The entire flower is nicely ruffled.



99AX

E5-1A by Vincent Christopherson of Texas has pure white standards. The falls are white with a one half inch overlaid medium blue border. The beards are a bright yellow. This TB, observed in the Plotner Garden, also has lace around the edges and is ruffled.

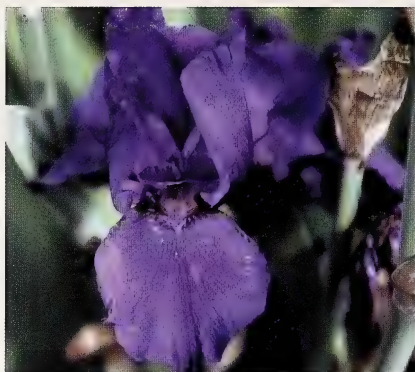


E5-1A

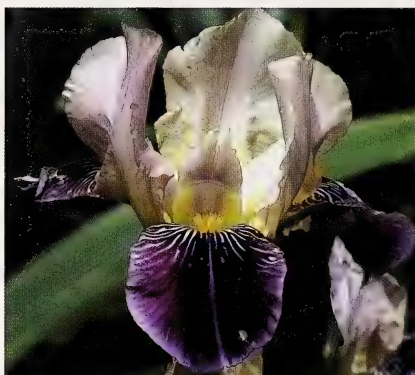
L90B1-4 is a dark purple self, a BB by Lucy Burton which stayed in class.

I38-8 is a MTB by Chuck Bunnell. Chuck, from Indiana, has introduced some very nice MTBs

over the past few years. I38-8 has tannish standards. The falls are beet purple turning lighter at the edge. It has deeper beet purple veining starting on the white shoulders and extending throughout the dark purple falls. It also has a lighter colored straight line extending from the bright yellow beard to the center edge of the falls and the flower has just



L90B1-4



I38-8



N16UBX

a bit of wavy ruffling.

And we've included three of our own seedlings, two of which appeared with part 1 of this article, and one which is here. This last one is one of Riley's tall bearded seedlings. Yes, he *does* hybridize TBs in addition to MTBs. Those of you who attended the AIS Convention in St. Louis in 2005 may remember it. The seedling N16UBX was judged the Best Seedling in the iris show on Wednesday of the Convention. Its parentage is (Unfinished Business X (Passion Flower x Flights of Fancy)). The multi-colored falls are flaring and have a luminata pattern just barely coming through, which are traits from 'Flights of Fancy'. The standards are a light golden yellow. It has an erect purple horn and both standards and falls are ruffled. This iris was not guested in 2006. The only way one could have seen it in 2006 was to visit the Probst/Trio garden. So this serves as a reminder with the 2007 iris bloom season coming up soon: Go out and visit the gardens of your local hybridizers! Who knows, you might see a future Dykes Medal winner on its maiden bloom. 🌸

All photos Probst/Trio

Have you recruited a new AIS member this year?

The Nature of Iris Seed Germination

Vincent Christopherson, Texas

Understanding the nature of irises is the single most important aspect that leads to success when growing them. As natives of the northern temperate zone of the planet, irises have special adaptations that are essential for survival under their given circumstances. We irisarians are either joyfully or painfully aware of this fact, based on our results in the garden. Painstakingly, we learn how to assist or hinder their survival. All the time we are pushing the envelope in our attempts to expand irises beyond their normal boundaries. Those that are practiced in the art of developing rebloomers probably understand this as well as anyone. They are trying to overcome the obstacles of day length, vernalization, cultural differences, etc. Likewise, germinating iris seeds can be a challenge if we do not understand their basic requirements.

In these modern times we handle iris seeds a bit differently than nature has done in the past. We can try all kinds of things and have some success, but it is truly left up to the seeds' capabilities. Through times past, seeds would just fall to the ground after the pods ripened and things would take their natural course. As man has intervened to manipulate irises for his own pleasure, we have tried an untold number of ways to germinate seeds in environments we create for them. We attempt to do it in such a way as to achieve the best possible germination. Nature, however, has reasons for what it does. There is a lot we can learn and achieve by understanding and mimicking what we see in nature. Also, iris hybridizers and growers are constantly accumulating knowledge and experience because of the necessity to germinate seeds as a source of new iris cultivars. Botanists, biochemists, and plant physiologists have turned the study of plants into a science and have created a detailed nomenclature for plant characteristics, which includes various aspects of seed germination. What were nature's secrets in the past are slowly being unlocked, and we can use them to our advantage. If we understand where nature, irisarians, and scientists have already gone we will be ahead of the game.

One of nature's ways of protecting plants from extinction is seed

quiescence. Typically, iris seedpods split in early summer when the hottest and driest time of the year is approaching. During the time a pod ripens and drops its seed to the ground is not the best time for germination and growth of new sprouts. If a chance thundershower occurs, germination would be detrimental because of the coming adverse conditions; new seedlings would not have a chance to take full root before the advancing heat and dryness. Neither is the fall season, when more moisture becomes available, a good time for germination because of the approaching winter cold. Young tender growth in the sprouts is hard pressed to survive at this time. Just imagine the disaster that would occur if all the seeds of a given species, with no quiescent capabilities, germinated at the same time, only to burn up in the summer sun or freeze in the harshness of winter. So then, quiescence works in favor of the species and is the condition of a seed when it is unable to germinate due to unsuitable external conditions such as during dry, hot, overly wet, or cold extremes.

Another related way that nature provides to assure the survival of the species is seed dormancy. This aspect is of the most concern to iris hybridizers when germinating seeds. Dormancy is the condition of a seed when it fails to germinate due to internal conditions. Dormancy can allow seeds to lie in the soil for many years even through times when all conditions necessary for germination are present. Just as quiescence sustains the viability (life) of the seed during extremes throughout the year, dormancy sustains them through the years. In some future time they can still spring forth to carry on. Again imagine what would happen if all the seeds of a given species were to germinate during the same spring and then be killed by some natural disaster such as drought, flood, or cold extremes. So as not to expend an entire generation of offspring

in one germination event, iris seeds also have inhibitors that allow some of them to remain dormant for future germination.

In nature, iris seeds lie in the ground through winter freezes.



Seed pods beginning to split naturally.

Certain changes occur inside the seed that enable them to resist subfreezing temperatures; an antifreeze, if you will, that is also present in living plant parts. These changes may also assist germination by helping to break seed dormancy. The breaking of dormancy by exposure of moist seeds, in the ground, to low temperature is referred to



Crosssection showing seed inside fruit body.

as stratification and prechilling. Inhibitors on the exterior of the seeds may be washed away as they come in contact with soil moisture or when rainwater washes over them. Additionally, changes on the interior of the seed related to the chilling process can lead to the breaking of long-term dormancy. Just as vernalization (the low temperature promotion of flowering due to chilling) can bring about changes in iris plants that lead to flowering, the prechilling of seeds can assist in interior preparation for germination. Many of us in the process of germinating iris seeds have soaked them in water intentionally or unintentionally, washing away inhibitors from the dried fruit body around the seed. This, however, does not overcome conditions inside the seed. In one instance, abscisic acid (the same substance that works when dormant buds form and abscission causes leaves to fall from trees) may inhibit protein synthesis by blocking alpha amylase, preventing digestion of starchy portions of the seed's endosperm. In other words, the seed is unable to use its stored food unless prechilling turns the switch allowing it to become available.

There are other types of inhibitions that can play a roll in restraining or retarding seed germination. First, simply too much water or not enough oxygen can be inhibitory. Also germination inhibitors occur in plant parts other than the seeds, such as leaves, roots, and stems; when a seed is in close proximity to the parent plant, or when inhibitors are leached into the soil through decay of plant litter, they may inhibit germination. This is one way some plants have of avoiding competition with their own offspring. This can also occur in your pots or seedbeds if inhibitors are still present in compost you have used. Other species of plants can also produce allelopathics (substances that harm other plants). These can also sometimes act as germination

inhibitors. Many plants use this as a defense mechanism to keep other species from invading their space. For instance, the phenolics are a group of compounds, characterized by an aromatic or piney smell that can have this effect. In other words, some seemingly insignificant variations in composts, mulches, soils, or humus can effect the germination of your seeds.

Some compounds produced in irises or by other organisms can work as promoters in seed germination. Of note among these is nitrate, manufactured organically and found in virtually any decaying plant and animal matter. Nitrogen, which we are more familiar with, the first ingredient listed in most common fertilizers, usually in the form of salts, is the key element involved. Root stimulators (which can also aid in germination and/or the emergence of seedlings) usually have some form of nitrogen in them. Nitrate (NO_3^-) and ammonium (NH_4^+ , used in crop fields) are, however, more readily absorbed by plants than elemental or other forms of nitrogen. Another promoter of note is ethylene, which is produced during fruit ripening. Exterior to the hard seed coat of iris seeds is a fruit body which can ripen in the same way as other fruit more common to us. During this ripening, ethylene gas is produced and can work to promote germination by interacting with inhibitors such as abscisic acid. Many of us have put pears in a paper bag and closed the top so the pears will ripen more quickly and evenly. The accelerated ripening and characteristic smell are due to the formation of ethylene gas. Fallen pears on the ground will many times have germinating seeds in them when the ripening becomes more advanced (you may have seen this in oranges right in the refrigerator). Ethylene production is why it is not recommended to put tulip or other bulbs in the same drawer with fruit in



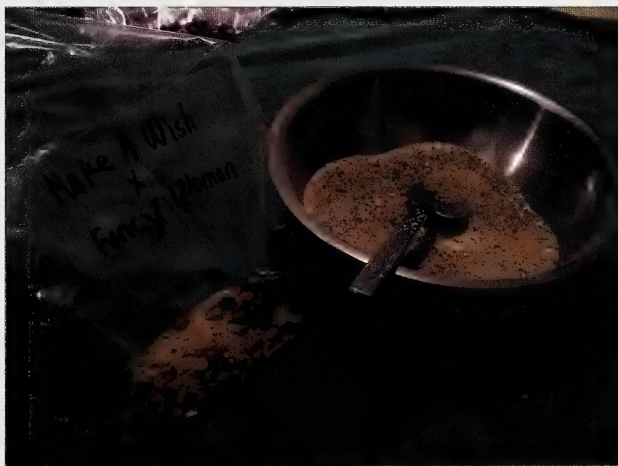
Seed extracted from pods just before splitting.

the refrigerator. Undried iris seeds, although they have a much smaller fruit body, will show accelerated germination, in similar fashion, under controlled conditions.

What is important to us in our efforts to germinate iris

seeds is not whether we use all the terms just touched upon above. Being able to use the knowledge, in a good old common sense way, to get our seeds sprouting consistently, is what we need. Thomas Edison performed thousands of experiments before he reached a workable light bulb. We do not need to know all the details of all the experiments, just the recipe that works. For germination of iris seeds a couple of simple tools and some sand will help us to mimic nature and put us in greater control. We will need a refrigerator and some plastic bags.

For accelerated fall germination: Place undried seeds (at the time pods just begin to split) in a labeled fold over sandwich bag. The seeds will be plump and evenly brown. Add enough lightly moistened sand to surround the seeds, and fluff together. The idea is not germination at this point, only enough moisture to keep the fruit body around the seed plump to promote ethylene production. Roll the sandwich bags shut and place in a larger zip lock bag. Place in the refrigerator till late summer (for me about two months from seed harvest). At this time, check the moisture. The sand should be moist enough to hold together but dry enough to crumble when you fluff the bag. Fluff the sand to allow oxygen in around the seeds. A sweet earthy smell will become apparent, if not already



Adding sand to seed bags to mimic stratification.



Adding moisture before pre-chilling in the refrigerator.

present in the smaller bags. Keep the larger zip lock sealed to hold the ethylene in around all the smaller bags. This is the only time to have concern that the refrigerator is not set to cold. Chose a warm spot away from the freezer wall. Mine tests about 38 to 40 degrees, cool enough to chill but warm enough to avoid frost. Start to move the bagged seeds out of the refrigerator during the day and overnight. In about two weeks the first germination will start right in the refrigerator.

Planting: Plant any bags of seed that start showing germination at this time. The exception here would be if the typical fall, warm/cool temperature swings have not started. If this is the case just keep in the refrigerator till the weather starts to cool. Plant in one-gallon pots, one inch deep, in medium coarse, washed sand, and give a light dose of root stimulator with nitrogen. In other words, promote further germination while allowing natural nighttime chilling and daytime warming to continue what you started. Place outside where no sun can hit the pots, and keep moist but not constantly wet. The sand surface should dry a bit between waterings but not deeper than the seed depth. The watering will provide moisture but also can wash away remaining inhibitors from the fruit body around the seed. Once any pot has a full flush of new seedling growth, I move it to the hothouse or cold frame. If you are in a colder northern climate, a heated greenhouse or some other heated setup will be necessary. For me, germination starts in September so plants have 6 to 7 months growth by normal in-ground germination time in March to April. This allows the seedlings enough growing time to be ready to plant out in the ground their first spring.

This same process can be used to enhance spring germination. Two to three months before normal spring in-ground germination, start the



2006 fall germinated Tall Bearded seedlings.

refrigeration process. The basic steps are the same as with fresh seed, only using dried seed soaked in water overnight. At the beginning of the time for day / night temperature variation, add a ripening pear or orange in a paper

bag inside the zip lock to get a little ethylene action going. As before, pot any bags that start to show germination and place in full shade outside, use root stimulator, and keep moist. At this point I set the sand pots that have a full flush of seedlings in dappled shade to mature throughout the summer and over-winter them till the next spring planting season. Burying the pots up to their neck or packing with mulch between them helps to retain water in the summer and protect from the cold of winter. If you have an extreme winter climate, mulch or some other cover can be put right over the pots once they have had their first good chills. What I consider the drawbacks of this method is that you still have to protect the seedlings through one winter, and it takes a year and a half longer just to get the seedlings into the ground.

To summarize, we have simulated the events that seeds go through in nature. We have mimicked stratification and prechilling by placing the seeds in moist sand in the refrigerator. We have allowed for quiescence and lessened the effects of dormancy by washing away inhibitors, counteracting inhibitors using chilling, and adding promoters of germination and seedling emergence. ♪

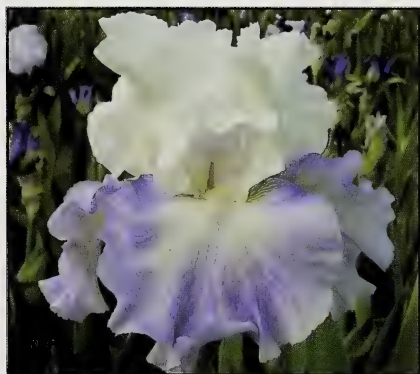
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More Complicated Than You Think

Jean Witt, Washington State

[Inspired by Pat Otterness' article on page 88 of the AIS Bulletin of October, 2006.]

Many of us share the frustration of Pat Otterness with limited information on iris genetics – I've been trying to find out what is going on for fifty years and I haven't had much luck. In the 1960s I had extensive interviews with A.H. Sturtevant, one of the foremost geneticists of the time, and even he couldn't answer my questions – the necessary research had never been done. That is still true today.

I began working with diploid MTBs, because I figured that ratios would be easier to see in diploids than in tetraploids. I've also worked with a variety of beardless groups, particularly Sinosiberians and Cal-Sibes and other far-cross hybrids. The hope of seeing tidy Mendelian ratios turned out to be a pipe dream.

The first problem I encountered was instability of color. The yellow self 'Sherwin-Wright' sported a "return" to the variegata pattern of 'Honorabile'. Thanks to material uncovered recently by Clarence Mahan, we now know that the old smudged and striped variegata, which has traveled around as "Honorabile" for decades, is actually 'Sans Souci'. The name 'Honorabile' belongs to a flower with solid-color falls. This means that the two broken color sports, credited in the 1939 Checklist as coming from 'Honorabile', actually belong to 'Sans Souci'. In 'Kaleidoscope' the purple pigment is erratic. In 'Joseph's Coat Katkamier', it is the yellow that breaks. There is also an unregistered white/violet amoena sport which I have not seen, and a more plicata-like sport from 'Kaleidoscope' known as "Brown's Mutant". Furthermore, some divisions of 'Sherwin-Wright' have small squares of increased yellow. Former AIS President L.F. Randolph examined the chromosomes of 'Sherwin-Wright' and 'Sans Souci' for me many years ago and found a telltale difference between the two. 'Sherwin-Wright' is missing a piece of chromosome which is present in 'Sans Souci'. Both plants are quite unstable, and can swing back and forth from one color to the other at any point during plant growth, including the point at which germ cells are formed.

Whether this broken color is the same as that in Allan Ensminger's and Brad Kasperek's 4n (tetraploid) lines, I don't know. Nor do we know whether 'Minnesota Mixed-up Kid', a recently-registered (but long in circulation) clone of unknown origin (probably tetraploid) with small purple ellipses on yellow ground, is the same as any of the others or is something still different.

Broken color yellows seem to be rarer than broken color purples. 'Corsage' is the only tetraploid BC yellow I have seen. 'Joseph's Coat Katakamier' has been mostly sterile for me, whereas 'Kaleidoscope' is quite cooperative. I also had a seedling in which broken yellow and broken purple occurred in the same flower. This may have been lost when I moved, as it was a very poor grower. I do have a slide of it.

So let's raise the question here: What is the relationship of broken color to the plicata pattern? The BC variety 'Batik' sometimes sports to a blousy white/blue plicata. – Why?

For that matter, what causes plicata pattern and where does it come from? 'Swertii', with stitched edges, is our oldest plicata of record (1612), and 'Mme. Chereau' is a good example of this type from 1844. That leaves the all-over dotted type in need of explanation. – Where did it come from? 'Buriensis' (1820) is described as "freckled". It is long gone, apparently, but 'Mercedes' may be a descendent, and I have diploid seedlings from 'Mercedes' in exactly the same pattern as tetraploid two-toned dotted plicatas such as 'Celestial Explosion' (Tasco '04). I am not, by the way, a great believer in dosage as a cause of plicata variations; many of them occur at the diploid as well as the tetraploid level.

My guess at this point (not original to me) is that the plicata pattern is the result of long ago hybridization between *I. pallida* and *I. variegata*. I can offer the following bits in support of such a notion.

Crosses between yellow self *I. forrestii* and red-violet self *I. chrysographes*, or yellow *I. nelsonii* with blue-violet *I. delavayi* produce muddy or dull rusty selfs in the F1 (first generation). F2 (second generation) flowers are freckled in violet on white or yellow ground. This is a common result in Sinosiberian crosses. In trilliums, crosses between red flowers and white flowers gave Fred Case pink freckled progeny. Do hybrids with parents of unlike colors somehow turn out to be mosaics? Japanese irises on the other hand have been developed from a single species. Perhaps all that is necessary is to have a white-flowered mutant to start with.

Under the microscope, plicata dots appear as little piles of blue cells. – Have they popped through a hole from an under-layer? Or is the surface layer a mosaic of blue and white cells? I've managed to track

down a number of papers on BC and/or dotting in other plants, but nothing seems to fit what we see in irises. Corn comes closest, and is known to have transposable elements ("jumping genes"). Certain varieties of carnations have stitched edges. Inheritance in carnations has been extensively investigated – perhaps it might provide a clue as to the cause of edge stitching in irises.

One of the more intriguing varieties of *plicata* is the pattern seen in 'Ring around Rosie' (Ernst '00), in which only the center of the fall is dotted, while the edges are undotted. This leads to a second complication: the possibility that our iris flowers, as the result of many decades of breeding and selection, have become chimera – that is, patchworks of tissues of unlike color – and that this is the source of the patterns we are seeing today. Once-solidly-colored petals are "breaking up" into centers and borders, differently colored.

I can offer two useful references, which shed light on the mechanisms of chimeras. Neither is recent, but chimeras are not a hot topic at present:

Plant Chimeras, by Richard A.E. Tilney-Bassett. Edward Arnold, London, 1986.

Nature of Plant Sports, by Haig Derman. *American Horticultural Magazine*, vol. 39, #3, pp 123-173, July 1960.

Think of variegated leaves. Petals are merely fancy leaves, developed from the same structural layers, designated LI, LII, and LIII. Patterned petals show the same sort of divisions that one sees in white and green variegated leaves. I have a hunch that mutations have split up the pigments of our iris flowers in the same way. This is why petal borders may now be a different color from petal centers. Some of this is merely the sort of accident that is common in vegetatively propagated plants. Some of it may be related to broken color.

In flowers from many different sections of the genus, the veins all occur in the same position, whether one is looking at *I. variegata*, *I. korolkowii*, *I. innominata*, *I. missouriensis*, PCN 'Valley Banner', or Japanese irises. Borders are also in the same place (with some variation of width). Spots are in the same place (with a certain amount of variation in size). This sort of "breakup" of formerly solid colors is also occurring in other plants which have been receiving the attention of breeders. *Coleus* leaves and *Poinsettia* bracts are colorful examples. In *Cosmos*, *Impatiens*, *Petunias*, and pansies, petals that were once a single solid color have "broken up" so adjacent layers are now different colors. Such flowers have become chimeras. Some flowers, such as the little

from top:

'Ime. Chereau'

'Mercedes'

'Madame Louis Aureau', an early tetraploid plicata

'Corsage'

53



More Complicated...

(See article by Jean Witt)





Clockwise from top right:

'Sherwin-Wright'

Sans Souci

'Joseph's Coat Katkamier' with partial reduction
of yellow to ivory/raspberry

"Brown's Mutant" reverting to 'Sans Souci'



*More
Complicated...*

on top:
Iris 'Brown's Mutant'
'Joseph's Coat Katkamier' with
extensive white/violet sectors
'Marvin-Wright' with darker yellow sectors





Clockwise from above:

'Batik'

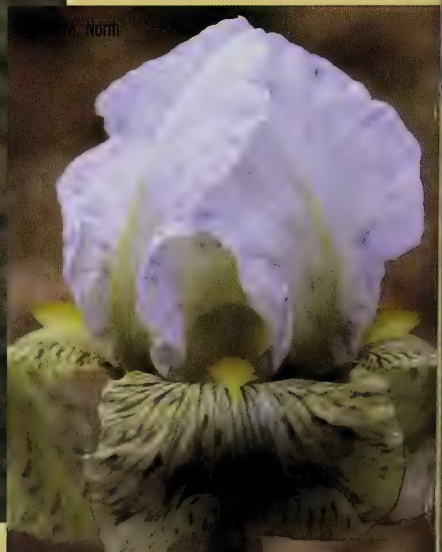
'Minnesota Mixed-up Kid'

'Jazz Baby'

Witt seedling 002-07-V1 (BC yellow and
BC purple in one flower)



Photo: Baumunk



Clockwise from left:

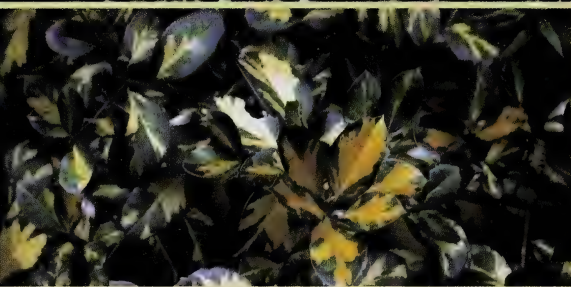
'Ring around Rosie'

'Fuji's Mantle'

caladium leaves

'Moonlit Sea'





This page, clockwise from top:

'Tigger'

'Kaitlin' sports

'Kaitlin'

Variegated Norway Maple: LI white, LII green

Variegated Eleagnus: LI green, LII yellow

Next page, top to bottom:

Iris korolkowii

'Elizabethan Age' (luminata)

'New Leaf' (luminata)

Iris missouriensis



Photo: L. Baumunk



Photo: C. Foss



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2007 INTRODUCTIONS FROM LONG'S GARDENS



BLANCA PEAK (David Miller) #95-21B TB 32-34" ML This is a sparkling "Colorado Snow" white with a glint of "Colorado Sun" (bright yellow beard) showing through. This one is named after my favorite Colorado 14,000 foot peak. Nicely branched, 7 to 8 buds and good growth make this one sure to please. Little Mary Sunshine X Tatiana. \$40.00

CHINA CUP (Magee) BB 24" M White porcelain petals. Upright closed standards. Wide overlapping horizontal falls. White beards with orange pekoe tea at throat. ((Above All X Fuji's Mantle) X (Mary Randall X Strike Me Pink Sib) X Ice Sculpture)) X ((Wedding Cake X ((Treasure Room X (Colorado Sunshine X White Lightning)))

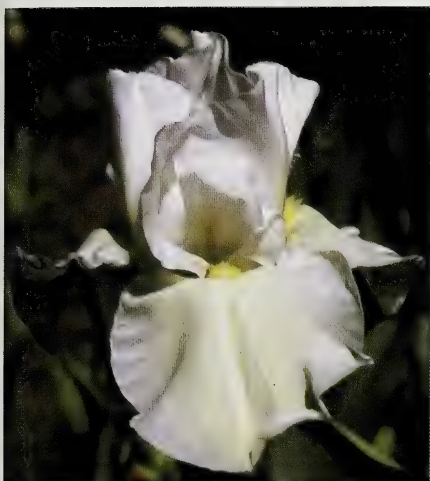
\$30.00

MORE REIGN (David Miller) #97-14A SDB 10" M This nice deep royal blue/purple reminds me of a more and better Cats Reign. Better grower, better bloomer, and better overall color. This, plus consistent 3 buds, make this a real pleaser. Cats Reign X Rapscallion \$15.00

OLD FAITHFUL (Magee) TB 43" M Flower open with power, strong sulphur geyser upright standards touched by red coloring on mid ribs over falls of yellow limestone. Flower folds into hot springs pool. Colorado Sunshine X Precious Moments. EC '97 HC '99 \$40.00

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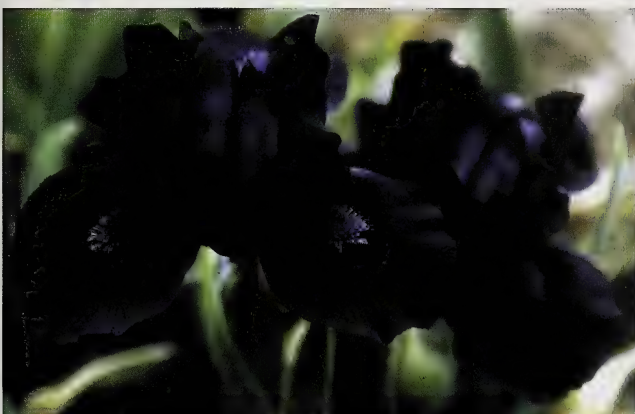
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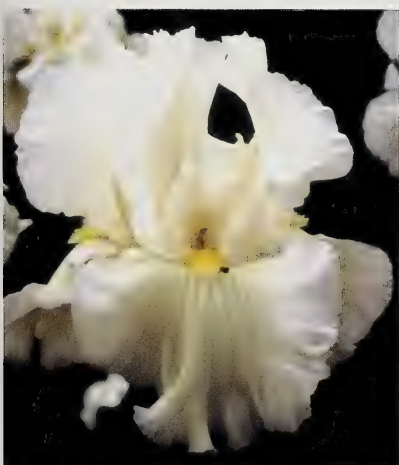
China Cup



Old Faithful



More Reign

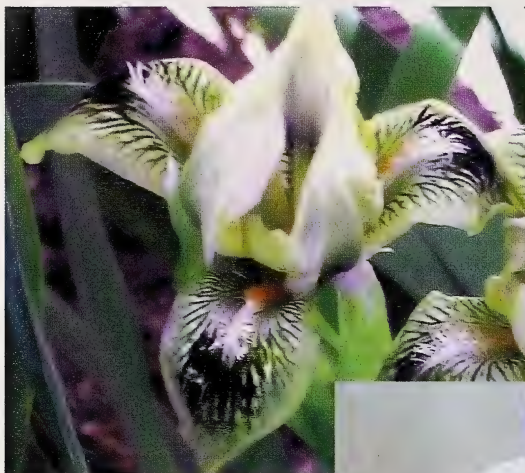


Blanca Peak



2007 Introductions

Aril Society International



2007 INTRODUCTIONS

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Left: **ENIGMATIC ELF**
(Elm Jensen) OGB (My Funny
Valentine X unknown)

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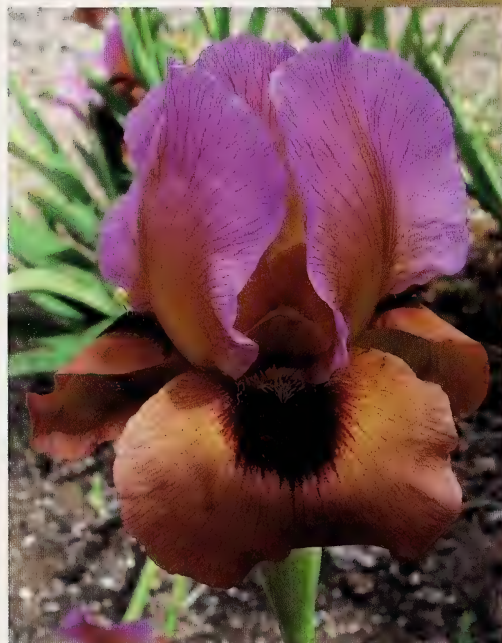


Above: **LAKESIDE ELF**
(Anita Moran) OGB (from
SIGNA seed)

LEFT: **REFINER'S FIRE**
(Pete McGrath) OGB
(Shockey 92-112-A X
Babylonian Fires)

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BLACKMAIL (Bruce 2007) 40\$

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From John Bruce and Mike Greenfield



John & Deborah Bruce

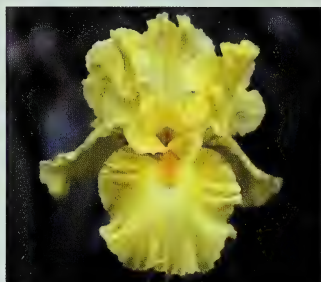
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On the web: <http://home.cinci.rr.com/hiddenacres>

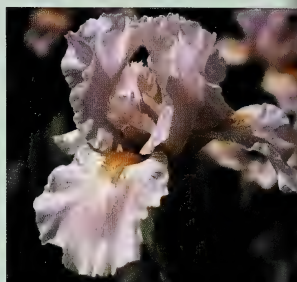
WINTERBERRY GARDENS INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2007



ZEKIE



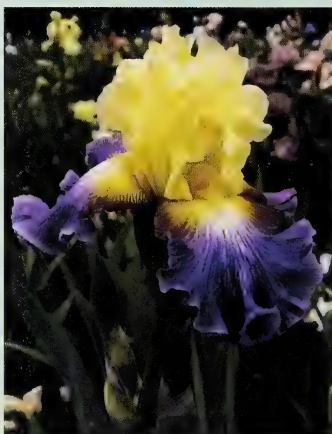
LEMON LOLLIPOP



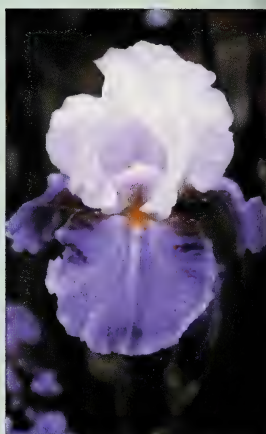
CORAL CHIMES (IB)



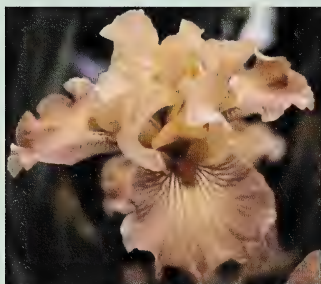
ORCHID DOVE



DREAMING RAINBOWS



NATIONAL TREASURE



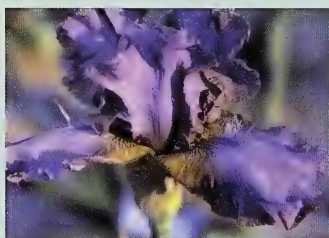
AUTUMN SUNRISE



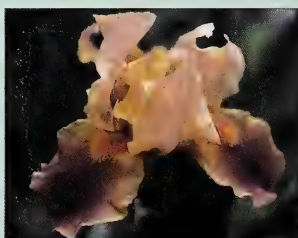
FREDA'S GIFT



GRIFFIN



RANGER MOSBY



HOLIDAY TREAT (IB)



KRISTEN FAITH

WINTERBERRY GARDENS INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2007

By Griffin Crump, Clarence Mahan, Ginny Spoon, and Dr. Don Spoon

Autumn Sunrise (G. Spoon) TB, 34" (86 cm) 7 buds, EM & RE, November in zone 6b, Sdlg.#99-44A. Ruffled and flared. Erect standards and style arms light orient-pink (29A). Falls light orient-pink (29A) with darker carmine (33D) venation, hafts, and shoulders. Fall edges are light and there is a lighter zonal around the tangerine (40A) beards. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Diamond Blush X Chatter). \$35.

Dreaming Rainbows (D. Spoon) TB, 36" (91 cm) 7-9 buds, ML, Sdlg.#90-45D. Ruffled. Arched falls raising to flared. Standards and style arms smooth light chrome yellow. Falls violet darkening toward the ends, near-white edges and venation as in a luminata, chrome yellow hafts, edge of hafts reddish maroon, white area near beards. Beards chrome yellow with white base at end, yellow orange midsection, and yellow-orange in throat. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Corn Harvest X Delia's Child). \$40.

Freda's Gift (D. Spoon) TB, 33" (84 cm) 7-9 buds, L, Sdlg.#2001-181A. Ruffled, flared, and lightly laced. Darker venation throughout flower. Standards lavender blue (92C), darker (92A) in center and bases. Style arms lavender blue (92D), darker (92B) in center. Wide, overlapping lavender blue (92 D) falls, darker (92B) in center. Darker lavender-blue (92C) beards frosted at tips with light lavender-blue (92D) or light yellow deep in throat. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Uncle Charlie X Giltz' N Glitter x Suky)). \$35.

Griffin (D. Spoon) TB, 35" (89 cm) 7 buds, ML, Sdlg.#98-209A. Ruffled and fluted. Flared and laced. Closed standards light pink to white with more intensity of peachy pink in bases and centers. Style arms peachy pink, darker in midribs and edges with heavily lacy crests. Falls rose pink (63C) with light pink to white border, midline and marks beside the white beards that are tipped tangerine (41A) in middle and deep in throat. (Electric Surge selfed). \$35.

Kristen Faith (D. Spoon) TB SA, 35" (89 cm) 7-9 buds, ML & REc (rebloom carrier), Sdlg.#99-186A. Ruffled, flared, and laced. Closed standards are orange peach (29C) with orange peach (29B) edges and peach in centers. Style arms with heavily laced crests are orange peach (29C) with darker midribs and edges. Wide falls are orange peach with light yellow zonal below beards crossed by orange peach veins. Falls with deeper orange-peach (29A) thumbprints and orange peach edges (23C). Beards white tipped red orange (32A) with lavender blue upturned horn extending into orange peach (29C) projections. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. Vigorous. (Colleen's Dreamsicle X Magic Kingdom). (Named to honor Region 4 youth member, Kristen Faith Laing, Cosgrove winner, youngest AIS garden judge, author, and iris hybridizer). \$45.

Lemon Lollipop (D. Spoon) TB, 30" (76 cm) 7 buds, EM & RE (October in zone 7), Sdlg.#90-8-118. Ruffled and lightly laced. Arched falls. Brilliant yellow, darker yellow shoulders, paler area below beards. Beards orange yellow, darker in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways (Lemon Reflection X (Hindenburg x Lemon Reflection)). \$35.

National Treasure (D. Spoon) TB, 36" (91 cm) 7 buds, ML, Sdlg.#98-114A. Ruffled. Closed, domed standards are snow white as are style arms with lavender blue midribs. Arched falls grading from rose pink (80D) to plum (80B) near periphery beside light borders. Falls have light rose-pink (76D) borders, broad midlines below beards, and venation. Darker and more maroon (blend 175B & 61B) in hafts and shoulders. Dark violet hairline on edges of falls. White beards tipped red orange (41A) in middle and in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Outrageous Fortune X My Ginny). \$40.

Orchid Dove (D. Spoon) TB, 35" (89 cm) 7-9 buds, L, Sdlg. #98-286B. Ruffled and laced with bubble lace. Closed, domed standards are orchid pink (blend of 84B and 85B). Orchid pink style arms darker across stigmatic lip and with two darker center lines. Wide, arched falls are orchid pink, lighter around beards and lightening to edges of the falls. Beards orchid pink, tipped golden yellow deep in throat. Pronounced sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Lady of Leoness Sibling X Uncle Charlie). \$40.

Ranger Mosby (D. Spoon) TB SA, 32" (82 cm) 5-7 buds, ML, Sdlg. #92-110A. Ruffled, laced, and flared. Closed standards, grayed lavender (86D) blended tan. Grayed lavender (86D) style arms with tan and old gold edges. Falls darker violet (86B) with tan and old gold at hafts and shoulders. White spike at base of horn. Edges of falls blended with tan. Beards orange with lavender blue appendages, fuzzy and upturned, spiked horns. Fertile both ways. (Sky Hooks X Magic Kingdom). \$35.

Toyoko (D. Spoon) TB, 35" (89 cm) 7-9 buds, ML, Sdlg.#96-427EL. Ruffled (even in hafts), flared, and non-fading (sunfast). Standards and style arms medium lavender-blue. Falls medium lavender-blue, lighter on edges with lighter area beside beards and lighter spike below white beards tipped tangerine in middle and in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Rafa X Pacific Destiny). \$35.

(Continued next page)

WINTERBERRY GARDENS INTRODUCTIONS FOR 2007

By Griffin Crump, Clarence Mahan, Ginny Spoon, and Dr. Don Spoon

UFO (D. Spoon) TB, 33" (84 cm) 7-9 buds, EM & RE, October in zone 6b, Sdlg.#2002-125A. Ruffled, variegated (broken color) flat top. Exotic novelty. Standards and falls lavender blue (87C) with violet (87A) splashes and with white sunburst at bases. Style arms lavender blue, lighter at bases. No beards, just a few rudimentary hairs at base of falls. Degree of opening of flowers based on culture and sunlight. Slight sweet fragrance. (Little John X Brindled Beauty). \$40.

Zekie (D. Spoon) TB, 33" (84 cm) 7 buds, ML, Sdlg.#2001-198A. Variegated (broken color), ruffled, and lightly laced. Erect standards and arched falls. Standards, style arms, and falls light pink streaked raspberry (72B). Beards light pink tipped tangerine in middle and orange in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Brindled Beauty X Little John). \$35.

Blues Clues (D. Spoon) SDB, 9" (23 cm) 2-3 buds, M, Sdlg.# 2001-54A. Ruffled and flared. Closed standards are white with distinctive maroon venation on the inside basal area. Style arms are white with pinkish edges. Falls light blue-green (122C) with darker blue-green (122B) venation and greenish yellow hafts. Beards white tipped golden yellow in middle and yellow orange in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Toy Boat X TuTu Turquoise). \$15.

Coral Chimes (G. Crump) IB, 27.5" (70 cm), E, Sdlg.#20C28. Ruffled and lightly laced. Muted coral pink self with lighter edges on standards and falls. Falls have a large crescent shaped rouge flush surrounding the beards and are strongly veined green-gold in the hafts. Beards are red orange and lighter at the end. Slight sweet fragrance. (Summer Olympics X Lumalite). \$20.

Dallas Mahan (C. Mahan) MTB, 24" (61 cm), EM, Sdlg.#SP-MTB-981. Standards have a cream ground with medium violet plicata markings becoming almost solid toward edges. Style arms yellow with violet midribs and crests. Falls with cream ground and violet pencil plicata edges, centers nearly solid cream. Breads bright yellow. Slight fragrance. (Sand Princess selfed), \$20.

Holiday Treat (D. Spoon) IB, 23" (58 cm) 5 buds, E, Sdlg.#97-701A. Lightly ruffled. Erect standards are peachy pink as are style arms that also have bright yellow edges. Arched falls peachy pink (smoothly applied in the hafts) grading to raspberry (63A) in center and below large, bushy tangerine beards tipped lighter and pinker at end, tangerine in middle, and darker orange in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. (Pele X Blazing Sunrise). \$20.

Huck (D. Spoon) SDB, 12" (30 cm), EML. Repeat bloom later in spring. Sdlg. #2003-190A. Ruffled with flared white falls with electric royal blue (close to 99B) spot with white midline. Erect standards and style arms white. Beards white, tipped orange deep in throat. Slight sweet fragrance. Vigorous. (((Olney Belle x Snow Tree) x Dot Com) X Unknown). \$15

Kumquat (D. Spoon) SDB, 9" (23 cm) 2 buds, EM & RE, November in zone 6b, Sdlg.#2003-7A. Ruffled and flared with closed standards. Standards and style arms are yellow orange (23B), and falls are deeper yellow-orange (23A). Orange (33A) beards. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Autumn Orange X Orange Tiger x Desert Orange). \$15.

Moss Spot (D. Spoon) SDB, 10" (25 cm) 2-3 buds, ML and RE, October in zone 6b, Sdlg.#2000-268A. Lightly ruffled and flared. Closed standards on first day becoming erect are light chartreuse yellow-green as are style arms with light pinkish edges. Falls light chartreuse yellow-green with moss green spot (146A&B, color of iris foliage), lighter yellow green (153A) at hafts, and white spike at end of white beards tipped golden yellow in middle and orange in throat. Slight spicy fragrance. Fertile both ways. Very vigorous. (Snow Tree X TuTu Turquoise). \$15.

Sandsong (D. Spoon) SDB, 10" (25 cm) 2 buds, EM, Sdlg.#2001-33SS. Lightly ruffled. Closed standards and style arms coral pink. Arched falls sandy (tannish) coral-pink with darker venation and lighter marks around the rufous orange (33C) beards with coral pink bases tipped orange. Slight sweet fragrance. Fertile both ways. (Low Life X (Pele x Candy Corn)). \$15.

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(*Dr. Hosack's Irises, continued from page 31*)

collections from the estate of Carl Linnaeus' son, including the herbarium, and granted David Hosack access for several hours a day over four months. Through Smith, he also met Sir Joseph Banks, president of the prestigious Royal Society of London, effectively the British academy of sciences, to which, in 1815, Dr. Hosack would, most gratifyingly, be elected a Fellow.

In August, 1794, David Hosack returned to the United States with his own valuable collections. In addition to lecture and study notes, he had assembled an extensive library, and purchased scientific equipment, a set of colored engravings of plants, and a collection of minerals which he later gave to Princeton University. He also carried a gift from Smith: a group of duplicate specimens from the Linnaean herbarium, species unknown, now apparently lost.

In addition to correspondence and various legal documents, several interesting publications survive which describe the Garden, its history, and its collections. The first, *A Catalog of Plants Contained in the Botanic Garden at Elgin, in the Vicinity of New-York, Established in 1801 by David Hosack, M.D.*, appeared in 1806. Writing in the first person, Dr. Hosack, informs us that believing "*the establishment of a Botanic Garden in the United States, as a repository of native plants, and as subservient to medicine, agriculture, and the arts, is doubtless a matter of great importance,*" but having failed to impress the state legislature of the need for support, he had resolved to devote his private funds to the project, confident that when his ideas were made tangible, public support would follow. To this end, he had purchased from the city of New York twenty acres of uninhabited ground about three and a half miles outside the city, upon which he had first built a conservatory. Two "hot-houses" were then under construction.

In this pamphlet, Dr. Hosack articulates three broad objectives: to collect and cultivate native plants, especially those with medicinal properties; to introduce and trial foreign plants which might prove useful in agriculture, including fruits, vegetables, and food for livestock; to provide medical students with a means of learning botany, "*a science intimately connected with their profession.*" Accordingly, the scientific beds were laid out consistent with the currently accepted botanical systems of Linnaeus, and Jussieu. In 1806, the irises in the Elgin collection, as cataloged, were: *I. germanica*; *I. graminea*; *I. persica*; *I. pseudo-acorus*; *I. pumila*; *I. spuria*; and *I. versicolor*.

With the support of distinguished scientists and enthusiasts in the United States and overseas, the Garden continued to grow. Emulating



A closeup detail of the 1810 engraving of the Elgin Botanic Garden by William S. Leney.

Curtis, Dr. Hosack also planned to publish a botanical magazine. His remarkable curator, Frederick Pursh, was to be editor. Like many of his time, including Pursh, he also intended to publish a *Flora of North American plants*. Finally, however, as father of an ever-growing family, he determined he could no longer sustain the Garden independently, and, in 1811, at a very substantial loss to himself, compelled its purchase by the state of New York. It was agreed that adequate public funds would be made available for its continuance as a resource for students of medicine and botany; unfortunately, this was not the case, and, within a few years, the area was derelict. Transferred to Columbia College in 1814 as a proposed location for a new campus, the land became a part of the school's endowment and was eventually developed. In 1920, it was leased to John D. Rockefeller, who erected Rockefeller Center on the site of the Elgin Botanic Garden.

Three publications appeared around the time of the sale. In *A Statement of Facts Relative to the Establishment and Progress of the Elgin Botanic Garden*, 1811, Dr. Hosack discusses the history and sale in detail. *Hortus Elginensis, or, a Catalog of Plants, Indigenous and Exotic, Cultivated in the Elgin Botanic Garden*, with a list of over two thousand names, also appeared in 1811. A third publication, *Description of Elgin Garden, the Property of David Hosack, M. D.*, is a reprint of an anonymous 1810 article published in the *Medical Repository*, a journal edited by Dr. Hosack's colleague, S. L. Mitchill, M. D. An engraving by William S. Leney after a period watercolor illustrated the article, and has been reprinted often. David Hosack may have written the piece; certainly his influence is patent, although Robbins suggests Dr. Mitchill. I sense similarities with the enthusiastic style of John W. Francis, M. D., Dr. Hosack's student, whose *Old New York, or Reminiscences of the Past Sixty Years*, delivered in 1858 to

the New York Historical Society, of which Dr. Hosack had been a founding member and president, contains reverential material about his teacher. Having described the Garden as "*a triumph of individual zeal, ambition, and liberality*," effected by "*princely munificence*," Dr. Francis recalled the spring strawberry festivals, held, as Dr. Hosack said, that his students might appreciate the practical side of botany as well as the theoretical. Linnaeus, he recounted, had cured his gout by eating strawberries.

From these accounts, we know the land of the Elgin Garden was generally inclined toward the south, and east. Long Island, and the New Jersey shore, were visible from the higher ground. A shelter belt of trees and shrubs, native and exotic, surrounded the grounds, as did a stone wall some seven feet tall. The great diversity of soils and situations accommodated many needs. Although the grounds were laid "*to the most approved stile of ornamental gardening*," they also featured a nursery, and substantial collections of vegetables, and fruits, which, it was hoped, would help support the establishment. The conservatory was sixty-two feet long, and twenty feet high. With its hot-house and green-house wings, the front extended one hundred and eighty feet. Poppies, foxgloves, and other plants of the *materia medica* were grown in strict scientific order. There were also displays of poisonous plants, and agricultural plants, including the grasses which interested Dr. Hosack. Bog plants, and true aquatics, had their proper places, while the elevations were crowned with pines, junipers, and hemlocks. Everything was clearly labeled with its scientific name, and the celebrated herbarium and splendid library were available to students.

In the green-house, a dozen species of fragrant jasmines, exotic and tender bulbs, camellias, pavonias, and citrus of diverse sorts shared space with a stunning collection of ornamental geraniums. The true tropics, grown in the hot-house, included aloes, sugar cane, cinnamon, bird-of-paradise, night-blooming cereus, and "*the cactus which feeds the cochineal, covered with its insects*." Moreover, according to the *Description*, in front of the conservatory were "*clumps composed of the more delicate and valuable shrubs intermingled with a great variety of roses, kalmias, and azaleas. Their borders are also successively enamelled with the crocus, the snow drop, the asphodel, the hyacinth, and the more splendid species of the iris*."

The collections in the 1811 *Hortus Elginensis* are listed alphabetically with the authority of the name appended. A simple English name is typically included, as is an indication of the native land of the species, and its degree of hardiness. Medicinal plants are so noted. The irises, as listed, are *I. fimbriata* Vent.; *I. florentina* L.; *I. germanica* L.; *I. martinicensis* L.; *I. ochroleuca* L.; *I. persica* L.; *I. pumila* L.; *I. siberica* L.; *I. pratensis* Pers.; *I. versicolor* L.; *I. virginica* L., and *I. xiphium* L.

It will be seen that with the exception of *martinicensis*, which is not

a true *Iris*, the names are notably of sound species. Neither *I. sambucina* L. nor *I. squalens* L., for instance, appear in the collection, nor do any of the early named horticultural varieties. With the resources at hand, I have not identified *I. pratensis* Pers.; however, its association with *I. siberica* suggests Lamarck, not Persoon, should have been cited as authority. *I. pratensis* Lam. is a synonym of *I. siberica* L. Similarly, the well known spuria *I. ochroleuca* L. is now properly known as *I. orientalis* Miller. Notwithstanding the later confusions surrounding it, there is no reason to assume that Dr. Hosack, with learned connections all over Europe, was growing anything other than *I. pumila* L. under that name.

The three irises denoted as medicinal plants are *I. versicolor*, *I. germanica*, and *I. florentina*, which last is also identified as the source of orris. Interestingly, the list indicates that *I. germanica*, but not *I. florentina*, was grown in the green-house. It is possible that Dr. Hosack, who surely knew the species was hardy, was trying to simulate a Mediterranean climate in order to set seed, but more likely this was an editing error. It is unlikely the orris iris was what we know as *I. albicans*. Dr. Hosack would have noted the comment attributed to Desfontaines by Ker-Gawler in the *Botanical Magazine* to the effect that *I. germanica* and *I. florentina* were so similar as to be the same species. Desfontaines, of the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, with his colleague, Thouin, was among the supporters of the Elgin Botanic Garden.

Several irises from the 1806 catalog, *graminea*, *pseudacorus* and *spuria* do not appear on the 1811 list. They may have died, or been discarded in the interest of refining the growing collection; we cannot know. Neither can we know why several other readily available, and distinctive, *Iris* species, including *I. pallida*, do not appear. It seems possible, however, that unresolved nomenclature muddles clouded *I. pallida*. Ker-Gawler in the *Botanical Magazine* in 1803 listed over a dozen synonyms for this species, going back to Clusius, including *I. sambucina* L. Among the species native to New York, *I. cristata* does not appear on the list; neither does the "New Jersey Iris," as styled in the *Botanical Magazine*, *I. prismatica*, yet to be published by Frederick Pursh.

From today's perspective, the most exotic iris on the list is certainly *I. persica*, although it was no such thing in 1810. Cultivated in England since the early seventeenth century, and adored by the Scots, the Persian Iris is documented in North American gardens in the early eighteenth century. Dr. Hosack knew it as a hardy plant, and we may suppose it was among the "*more splendid species of the iris*" enameling the mixed borders. Arguably, the more remarkable entry in the 1811 Elgin list is *I. fimbriata* Vent., which appeared in the *Botanical Magazine* in 1797 as *I. chinensis*. The species was introduced into England by Thomas Evans of the India House in 1794, and we know it today as *I. japonica* Thunb.

Selected Sources:

Description of Elgin Garden, the Property of David Hosack, M.D. N.Y., ca. 1810.


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Jeffe, Elizabeth Rohn. "Hamilton's Physician: David Hosack, Renaissance Man of Early New York." *The New York Journal of American History*, at < www.alexanderhamilton.org.> Feb. 1, 2007.

Lockwood, Alice G. B. ed., for The Garden Club of America. *Gardens of Colony and State*, vol. I. N.Y., 1931.

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HAROLD L. STAHL

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2007 INTRODUCTIONS OF HAL STAHL

CELTIC LADY (Stahly '07) TB, M, 36". Standards, falls, and style arms are a warm pink (RHS 36B), beards brighter orange pink (35B). Flower form is wide, ruffled, and semi-flared. The stalk carries 8-9 buds with excellent branch spacing. This is named for my wife, who proudly claims an Irish heritage. It is a fine iris. Sdlg. 0107: ((Sweet Musette x Star Studded) X sib).....\$40.00

SHADOW OF A SMILE (Stahly '07) TB, M, 37". The smile is the whiteness of the standards and falls; the shadow is the light blue (97D) of the beards (with some yellow deep inside). Even in cool weather there has been no shading of color in this flower except in the beards. These are attractively formed flowers on good stalks. Sdlg. 98-35: (Lofty Dreams X Frostbite)\$40.00

Please include \$5.00 for shipping.

(*More Complicated Than You Think, continued from page 52*)

annual *Limnathes* from California, have white borders and yellow centers naturally.

Now for the third problem. In Monocots (which include irises), to quote Derman, "the sexual tissue in anthers may develop quite regularly partly from LI and partly from LII." This is not a problem unless mutations have resulted in the two layers being different colors. What you see may not be what you get. Dominant white is possibly an example of this situation. I don't know whether modern I-whites have finally lost the blue interior layer, so that they no longer throw blue seedlings. You can read in Garden Irises, page 351, about 'Good and Plenty', Orville Fay's pair of sports. The blue one threw white seedlings and the white one threw blue seedlings – a perfect example of unstable white which is neither dominant nor recessive, but would look first like one and then the other. I had a similar experience with the BC MTB 'Kaitlin'. Daughter rhizomes, still attached to a mother rhizome which had bloomed as 'Kaitlin' the previous year, sported to a *plicata* on one side and a bitone blend on the other.

I suspect *glaciatas* of being white (non-anthocyanin) in their interior layers as well as their surface layer. *Luminatas* lack anthocyanin in the veins of the falls, and in their style arms. A similar pattern exists in Japanese irises, also accompanied by white style arms. I'm guessing that in this case, anthocyanin may be missing from an interior layer but present in outer layers.

In *I. laevigata* all the whites seem to have bits of blue at the center, and I interpret this as an inner blue layer. The old diploid bearded amoena 'Drady' has a hairline of violet on its otherwise white standards; it has white style arms. I've seen Japanese irises with that same hairline of violet on their white standards; I can't even guess what is going on here! (See p. 46 of the January '07 *AIS Bulletin* for a picture of a contemporary tetraploid amoena with this hairline edge on the standards.)

It would be very nice to know the exact extent of each layer in iris flowers. As it is, we can only look at the patterns and guess. The parameters for other flowers, as reported by Tilney-Bassett, pages 78-79, provide limited guidelines: "the order of tissues from the outside to the inside corresponds to the order of the apical layers" [LI, LII, LIII, etc.]. Unfortunately, "Each species has its own characteristic pattern of development."


We could also use some work on pigments. We have very limited information on the role of flavones in iris flower color. They are usually dismissed as unimportant, but I saw a TB at the National Convention

in Portland that made me think we need some new research on pigments. This was the blue/white plicata 'Ski Run'. The border on the falls was the usual iris violet-blue; the edges of the standards were turquoise (the registration lists the color as "sky blue"). I suspect it is not the blue pigment that has changed, but the co-pigment. We could also use some research into the role of flavones in the balance between blue and orchid pink in *I. pallida* derivatives.

I recently received a paper from Japan detailing new pigment research on *I. ensata*. Many more variants of delphinidin were listed than in earlier work. Were they missed initially, or have decades of Japanese Iris breeding produced additional pigment mutations? Would we find the same thing if we took another look at the colors of our bearded irises? We definitely need work on pigments in sections other than bearded. A lot can be learned from simple paper chromatography, but we assume everything is known already so we don't bother... It's too easy to breed pretty flowers without asking any questions.

Our lack of knowledge is not because anyone is hiding secrets. A lot of what we think we know is somewhat off the mark, masked by the problems I have outlined above. Does that mean we can forget about Mendelian inheritance? Not at all – it is still operational at the tetraploid level (though not among diploid hybrids). But it may not explain some of the things previously attributed to it.

Iris breeding is likely to remain more an art than a science. We can continue to raise wonderful irises without any firm answers to the questions posed in this article. But I think it may be helpful to have some idea of the origins of our present patterns, and the mechanisms by which new ones might arise in the future.

I'm still looking for the flower with plicata standards and solid color falls. Has anyone seen it, or does the structure of the flower preclude it? Keep your eyes open! 

Notice of Name Change:

"Eleanor of Aquitaine", seen in the January Bulletin, has been renamed

"Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine"

– Lowell Baumunk, Iris Colorado. www.iriscolorado.com

**Have you recruited a new
AIS member this year?**

The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens:

80th Anniversary 1927-2007

What a crazy winter – preparing for a milestone like an 80th anniversary has been an exciting venture into not only the past, but the future. Those of us who are here this winter feel so lucky to be part of this incredible iris legacy, The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens. We marvel at its endurance, we marvel at its heritage, and we marvel at the commitment, of all those affiliated, to ensure not only that it made it this far, but that it survives yet another eighty years.

Aside from the obvious reasons for all iris lovers visiting The Presby during the month of May, this year we are featuring eighty years of history with an exhibit in the Walther House titled ***“Consider the Iris First: The Past, Present and Future of The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens.”*** This exhibit is the direct result of uncovering an unbelievable cache of archival material tracing the origins and growth of the gardens, most of which were the records of Barbara Walther, curator and legendary irisarian for the first fifty years of the garden’s existence. Showcasing just a sampling of what we have found, this exhibit will feature examples of personal correspondence with all the hybridizers of the day, a decades long dialogue with John Wister that began in 1927, photographs, records of accolades too numerous to list, and records of the iris from the gardens. Included as part of the exhibit will be an audio tape of Barbara Walther and John Wister speaking at the November 1967 GSIS dinner honoring forty years of service by Barbara. Sharing the honor as a feature of the exhibit will be many irises from the gardens with photos and charts showing their pedigrees. It is our hope that many of you who are active members in the AIS will make a point of visiting the Presby this spring, as it promises to be a celebration unlike any in its past. Anyone who is an AIS history buff will walk away with a clearer understanding of the shared bloodlines and creators between the AIS and The Presby Memorial Iris Gardens.

While the exhibit has been an enlightening journey down memory lane, we are equally focused on the future of the gardens. Two important initiatives are beginning this spring – one, the gardens are going “green,”

and two, the staff and voluntary members of the Iris Committee will be implementing plans to seek full accreditation as a living museum.

Recognition of the fact that we are only a part of a larger public park setting and that we must be environmentally responsible in our cultural practices has spurred the Board of Trustees to adopt a "green" policy for the management of the gardens. Though the iris may bloom but for a part of a season, the number of visitors on a regular basis for passive nature recreation is huge. Thus, many old school techniques and philosophies of control for weeds and borers will be tried this spring and only those products certified as organic will be utilized in cultivating the irises.

In seeking accreditation as a living museum, we are planning to craft a Collections Management Policy, Plan, and Working Manual that will become the main reference manual for consistent oversight of the irises. Integral to this process will be our Data Base system of documenting the collection. As with any botanical garden, accuracy in specimen identification is crucial. The Presby is fortunate to have very loyal volunteers – a major push is on this spring to accurately identify any iris blooms in beds slotted for renovation this summer. Tremendous headway was made over the last two summers – almost half of the



Barbara Walther inspecting (or perhaps being eaten by) her namesake

bearded iris beds have been renovated with only properly named iris replanted. We are very grateful to the HIPS organization for their help in seeking replacements for the historic ones that have been lost to the gardens. Equally, a push is on to expand our display of important hybridizers of today, to diversify our exhibit of educational iris beds, and to replace/restore Presby's once famous Species bed.

None of this could be accomplished without the dedication and dogged determination of the local community's volunteers. Not only do our volunteers give time in the gardens, they are aggressively doing what is needed to raise the funds to keep the gardens operating and restored to their fullest glory. We hope to see many of you in the gardens this bloom season – be sure to check our new website, www.presbyirisgardens.org, for up-to-date information of events scheduled during the month of May. 🌸



Otto: Barbara Walther's Main Garden Helper for Many Years



The Walther House with Iris 'Barbara Walther' (Casselman '59) in foreground



Barbara Walther with Hybridizer Dr. Casselman, 1961

A Project For The New Year:

Adopt-A-Public Garden

Jeanne Plank, AIS President

Public and botanical gardens generally enjoy a steady and appreciative patronage throughout the year. Visitor numbers surge traditionally with the burst of spring bloom and later when the trees and shrubs are decorated in fall colors.

In spring or fall, wherever they are featured, irises in bloom bring a dramatic presence to a garden. Well-positioned iris beds or plant locations throughout a garden, along with judicious selecting of cultivars to extend bloom season, become a special attraction for patrons. While some gardens have irises in display beds or use them interplanted throughout the garden, unfortunately others do not. Irisarians should work to remedy this omission.

Some years ago I was a volunteer at Descanso Gardens, an outstanding botanical garden in Southern California -- La Canada, to be exact. I served as their volunteer curator of the iris display for about ten years. Then and now, Descanso welcomes the assistance of volunteers, as do most public and botanical gardens in this day of dwindling funds. Gardens that at one time had paid garden workers of 20 (or more for the larger installations), now find they can afford only a fraction of the number of paid workers they once employed. These gardens reach out to volunteers to make up the difference. Gardens with large endowments also seek volunteers. They've learned that volunteers bring skills, knowledge and assistance from special plant interest groups that are not always available through salaried garden workers.

It stands to reason that people who visit arboreta and botanical gardens enjoy gardens and have an interest in flowers and plants. Most specialty plant groups have learned that working with a botanical garden is a mutual-benefit activity. The garden gets volunteer assistance and the plant group has a much improved opportunity to get information about their specialty plant out to a broad-based, garden-loving public that is interested in learning more about what they see, whether it is a whole group of plants, specific plants, or a way of using familiar plants more successfully.

This summer my attention was drawn to a botanical garden named Swan Lake Iris Garden located in Sumter, South Carolina. I received a

note from an active Irisarian from the Memphis area, telling me that in May she and her husband had visited a beautiful public garden “growing a lot of Japanese irises around a lake.” Brochures enclosed with the note pointed out that Swan Lake Iris Garden conducts an annual Japanese Iris Festival, proclaimed that it is South Carolina’s oldest continuous festival, and ranked among the top festivals in the Southeast. When workers at the garden told the visiting Irisarian that they were unaware of the American Iris Society, she was dismayed and contacted me, offering her observation that this garden “might be a new source/group to get involved” with AIS. I agreed. In contacting several Irisarians, both national and local to the garden, I discovered that the Swan Lake Iris Gardens had had a relationship with AIS in the past, but that the relationship between the garden and the various AIS groups has lapsed in recent times. The result of all the attention was a relevant exchange of information which produced a general agreement among the consulted Irisarians that efforts to make the AIS a viable and continuing presence at Swan Lake Iris Gardens should and will be given high priority.


The Swan Lake Iris Garden experience is cited as an example of an area of activity that is underdeveloped and undervalued in AIS - that of being involved in a visible manner with public or botanical gardens, whenever possible. Sections, Regions, Affiliates and/or individual Irisarians can do much to help public and botanical gardens while at the same time helping to promote irises, the American Iris Society and its many divisions.

I do understand, just by the nature of the activity, some of the difficulties that will confront both the garden and the volunteering group or individual when they join forces. But, having worked as a volunteer at Descanso Gardens, I also know that the rewards for the AIS as well as for the botanic garden are well worth the struggle.

I propose as an iris-related resolution for 2007 that Irisarians adopt a nearby public or botanical garden, either as an individual project, or as a cooperative region or affiliate effort. Offer your volunteer services and then follow through by delivering on your offer. Of course the most obvious service to offer might be to care for and/or modernize an existing iris planting. Such a proposal might find a positive response. Perhaps the garden is not particularly interested in irises, but definitely interested in volunteer help. Volunteer anyway. Working with the garden you may later be able to interest them in bringing irises into the displays and to offer them knowledgeable help to do it.

Adopt-a-Garden in 2007 and through the showcase of public and botanical gardens spread the word and knowledge about irises of all kinds.

If you have thoughts on this subject, are working with, have worked with, or plan to work with a public botanical garden, please share with

me your ideas, your experiences, and hopefully your progress, too. My email address is AISPresident@irises.org 

ASSORTED ITEMS:

Bulletin Index

The project to index all of the American Iris Society *Bulletins* is chugging along. Though by no means complete, the entries gathered to date by industrious volunteers can be downloaded from the AIS Website www.irises.org. More details are on the website.

Rita Gormley

GormleyGreenery@aol.com

Library Donations

Tracy Plotner, AIS Librarian

I would like to thank several people who are responsible for recent donations of materials to the AIS Library. First of all, Clarence Mahan, who generously donated two copies of his new book, entitled "Classic Irises and the Men and Woman Who Created Them". Lorraine Miller of Quincy, Washington, in Region 13 graciously donated her collection of AIS *Bulletins*. Also, Keith Keppel for various printed catalogs from the past. Finally, the daughter of Rosalie Figge for her donation of old convention booklets and various iris checklists in the name of her departed mother. Your donations are all appreciated and will become part of the history contained in the AIS Library.

CD of Pacific Coast Native Iris

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris has a CD of 260 excellent photos of Pacific Coast species and hybrids, with names on all photos. It is available for \$9.00 (\$13.00, out of USA). Please send a check, money order, or credit card information (Visa, MC) in two e-mails. To order contact: Terri Hudson, SPCNI, 33450 Little Valley Road, Fort Bragg, CA 95437; irishud@earthlink.net

Photography Corrections

In the January, 2007, issue of the *Bulletin*, the hometowns of two photographers were listed incorrectly. Becky Fain, photographer of the cover photo, lives in Waynesville, NC; Ruthmary Jackson, whose work appears on page 62, is from Hills, MN.

'Swerti' or 'Swertii'?

Phil Edinger, California

Which is correct, 'Swerti' or 'Swertii'? A good question, and one without a clear answer. The double-i would be the better Latin. However, the Check List gives the single-i version and that's what I've suggested that commercial vendors follow simply because it's "official" AIS backup – especially for shows.

However... when you delve into the literature, you find both. R. Irwin Lynch (Curator of the Cambridge Botanical Garden) used the single-i version in his 1904 *The Book of the Iris*, considered the precursor of Dykes' monograph. J. G. Baker (keeper of the herbarium at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew) in his *Irideae* (1892) lists it under *I. Swertii* Lam. THAT's interesting when you consider what Dykes footnotes in *The Genus Iris* (in the Dover reprint, I assure you!): "Named after Sweert, who figured it in his *Florilegium* (1612) ... as *Chamaeiris oris coeruleis alba*, syn *I. aphylla*, Hort. non Linn." So where did Lamarck come in? It would be interesting to trace this back through the literature to Sweert's publication in order to see where *Swerti(i)* first appeared.

It would be interesting to gather together plants labeled *Swerti(i)* from various sources to see if they're all the same. My guess is that one would find two (or – even worse – *more* than two) circulating. Again, to quote Dykes: "*I. plicata*, which is to all intents a *pallida* except in colour (cf. *I. Swertii*, which stands in the same relation to *I. Cengialtii*)...." In other words, *Plicata* is normal *pallida* size (or height, at least), whereas *Swerti(i)* is shorter. Baker gives 1-1 1/2 ft. as height for *Swerti*. Lynch echoes that and gives 2-3 ft. for *Plicata*. In fact, Lynch, under *Swerti*, says, "There is, I think, nothing to distinguish this from *I. plicata*, save colour and height.... while the coloration of *I. plicata* is violet, it [*Swerti*] is here of pale pinkish purple, the form of the venation and flushing of colour being very much the same." Lynch notes that both flower in June – which conflicts with Baker, who says *Swertii* is markedly earlier. 🌹

The American Iris Society on the Internet

John Jones, Chairman AIS Electronic Services Committee

The AIS sponsors two locations on the internet: the AIS website www.irises.org; and the online database of registered iris information.

The American Iris Society Website

The AIS website contains a wealth of information on irises and on the American Iris Society. On the website you can find a list of all the officers and committee chairs for the AIS, a list of all the AIS Regions and all the affiliated clubs. This is particularly useful for new members as it allows them to locate a club in their local area and get in touch with other iris lovers.

The website also contains links to other AIS resources and iris information including links to AIS conventions, Awards, non-commercial iris references and commercial sources for irises,

AIS has also added online payment for membership using PayPal and if you are subscribing or renewing your AIS membership you can also join or renew memberships in most of the AIS Sections and Cooperating Societies.

Online Iris Registration Information

Need to make up a list of descriptions for the club sale, or add descriptions to your own database of all those irises you just bought? Are you searching for just the right name for that new seedling but don't know if the name is taken already? www.irisregister.com is just right for you.

Several years ago the Electronic Services Committee of the AIS embarked on a project to provide electronic access to registration and Check List data. The long-term goal of this project is to have complete registration data in a database on the internet for every iris registered by the AIS and to have it searchable with a standard search engine.

Currently we have an online database that contains the full AIS registration entries for the following:

1999, 1989, 1979, 1969, and 1959 Check Lists.

Names (only) from the 1949 and 1939 Check Lists.

Full registration information from the 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 Registration and Introductions booklets.

Names (only) from the 2005 R&I.

Names of the 2006 registrations (as of 4 Nov 06).

Reserved Names (as of 4 Nov 06).

This data is available at the Checklist Database button on the irisregister home page at: <http://www.irisregister.com>

Since the addition of the 1999 Check List data, the Board of Directors of the AIS has instituted a subscription fee schedule for access to the irisregister.com online database:

1 year -\$10.00; 3 years \$28.00; 5 years: \$45.00; 10 years: \$85.00.

However, you may download, for free, the electronic versions of any of the 1989, 1979, 1969, and 1959 Check Lists. The 1999 Check List is not downloadable at this time.

The Check List data is divided into three segments:

Segment 1: Iris Name


Segment 2: Hybridizer, Year, Seedling number, Type, Height, Season

Segment 3: Description, Parentage, Introduction, and other info

Each of these sections can be selected to be included or excluded from a particular search. More information is available through the Help button on the website.

The Database is useful if you don't know in which Check List a particular iris is registered. It saves you from having to look through the '39, and '49 Check Lists for those descriptions you can't find in the Checklist Database ('99, '89, '79, '69 and, '59 Check Lists)


Hybridizers Note: The database will be a great help when you are looking for a name for that new fire-engine red flower you just discovered in your seedling patch. While the data is accurate through Nov 4th, 2006, we update the database on a quarterly basis and will be including updates to the reserved names.

In order to use the search engine you will need a user ID and a password. Follow the instructions at the database website: <http://www.irisregister.com> 

**Have you recruited a new
AIS member this year?**

A Few Words from Milan Blazek, Czech Republic

For a long time, I'd misplaced the 1939 issue of the Checklist. Now that I've gotten it back, I've been using it often, but I've also discovered the immense advantages of the Electronic Checklists. After installation of Excel, working with the Electronic Checklist from John Jones is a real delight! I spent several days on two lines of research: 1) the early 'Progenitor' phase, where the links with all present groups are obvious; and 2) reverse bitone lines, where the development was by far less intensive, but where I am trying to confirm whether all present time 'Wintry Sky'- types are really descendants of 'Wide World'. I believe they are, but a few 'Progenitor' descendants are also playing a certain role in the pedigrees. I am still not sure about the source of the 'Olympiad'/'Honky Tonk Blues' shaded flower colors – it is a third question, possibly involving both 'Progenitor' and 'Wide World'...


It is a wonderful work if one needs a few seconds for finding all varieties which have a certain common parent. In this respect also an electronic 1939 Checklist would be fantastic help in analyses of the genetic resources of garden irises. 

AIS Insurance

Michelle Snyder, Insurance Chair

For those of you who do not already know, our Liability Insurance is now with a new insurance company. If Certificates of Insurance are needed, I have made it much easier to obtain the needed documents.

To obtain Certificates of Insurance go to www.irises.org/insurance.htm and click on the text Request for Certificates of Insurance. Download the form, complete it as necessary, and fax it to the number shown.

As always, if there are any problems associated with obtaining the needed Certificate, or if you have any questions in general regarding insurance, please contact me at either (928) 282-5867, or my email address of sammygiz@aol.com. 

Contemporary Views:

2005/2006

Perry Dyer, Oklahoma

This edition of Contemporary Views includes evaluations from the 2005 AIS National Convention in St. Louis, the 2006 Convention in Portland, Oregon, in addition to a review of some of the first-year bloom in convention gardens on tour for the 2007 Oklahoma City National Convention and bloom from my own garden too, of course. We were given a golden opportunity to observe irises in peak performance from near-perfect weather conditions (St. Louis) to cold, clammy overcast conditions (Portland and central Oklahoma).

Award Winners

1. Contemporary Award

To the Best New Iris seen (one introduced within the past 3 years of the date of this review): **'All Night Long'** (Duncan 2005) is a smashing new lacquer black, a child of the famous **'Hollywood Nights'** (Duncan), and in my opinion an improvement by light years. Gone are the striations at the hafts. The form is a more "finished" look, and the texture is glossy and luxurious. Ruffling is heavy and well positioned throughout the flower. Standards appear a touch smaller than the falls, yet the form is still a very attractive look, distinctive. Foliage is a beautiful deep blue-green, clean with excellent increase. The stalks and branching display the high-quality Schreiner bloodline of its pollen parent. Simply stunning on the show bench.

Runners-up:

'Panther' (M. Smith 2004) is the most significant black SDB introduction since the release of **'Michael Paul'** (W. Jones 1979). In many ways, it is very similar to **'All Night Long'**, scaled down to SDB size. Dramatic ruffling is juxtaposed against glossy patent leather petals, with the only contrast in color a blue-violet beard. An average grower which makes clean, disease-resistant plants. Stalks have one branch with three well-timed buds. A clump in full bloom in the garden is evocative.

'Rainy River' (L. Painter 2005) is an intensely saturated flower, the best neglecta on the market, with medium blue standards atop inky

blue-violet falls, polished off with a pleasing degree of ruffling throughout the flower and a beautiful sheen. The colors are sharp, there is excellent contrast in colors between the standards and falls, and the falls are mercifully devoid of annoying haft marks which have plagued so many of its predecessors. This talented new hybridizer from the Napa Valley of California has a keen eye for a quality iris and is obviously very discriminating in determining what makes the final cut from her seedling patch.

'Be My Baby' (Black 2004) is a choice BB, a sinfully delicious shade of creamy pink with a chiffon texture that adds elegance to the flower. Deep, voluptuous, wavy ruffles on the compact flowers make the heart sing! Its finest feature, however, are the show stalks it consistently produces, easily carrying four branches and often some lower rebranching, adding up to a bud count of as much as 10 to 12 buds. Seeing multiple open blossoms (easily three and sometimes four at a time) is nothing unusual for this iris, with thin, graceful stalks that "give" in the breeze but never falter.

'Escalator Up' (Richardson 2005) is an eloquent addition to the Emma Cook pattern, with huge flowers composed of softest pale yellow standards, creamy falls washed in blue, more intensified at the edges. Reminded me of a prettier 'Stairway to Heaven' (Lauer), with more color and clean contrast between the standards and falls. The substance is outstanding, with an impressive leathery texture. Stalks are thick and strong, carrying three branches, double sockets, with well-timed bloom sequence. Plants are husky and healthy with above average increase.

2. *L'Elegante Award*

To the New Iris with the most beautiful individual flower seen: **'Hypnotic Melody'** (Innerst 2003) is quite simply one of the most beautiful irises I have ever seen, and the denial of its due recognition in the AIS Awards System thus far is puzzling and disturbing. A most difficult color to describe, it is a blending of pastels in creamy pewter with undertoning of pink and even subtle green. The ruffling is exquisite, deep and dramatic, yet never impedes its ability to open its flowers properly, fully, and without tearing or twisting. The substance is thick with texture as if carved from wax. Its healthy plant habits and exceptional stalks come from its pod parent, 'Silverado' (Schreiner).

Runners-up:

'Royal Sterling' (Keppel 2005) is well named, a masterpiece in sterling silver to palest lilac, with wide, magnificent form embellished

with intense ruffling and a degree of lace. The shimmering flowers are notably larger than most other 'Fogbound' (Keppel) offspring, carried on tall stately show stalks with consistently exceptional branching.

'**Kona Waves**' (Annand 2005) is a bicolor with yellow standards and violet-blue falls, in the tradition of Dykes Medalist 'Edith Wolford' (Hager), but not from EW breeding (instead, from another Dykes Medal winner from Schreiner, 'Honky Tonk Blues'). A shorter TB, it has ripple ruffles which belie its name, deep and dramatic. The tones are moody, even somber in cooler weather, unique, a welcome addition to this limited color class. It was a lighter color overall in Missouri, but most attractive either way.

'**Clouds of Glory**' (Richardson 2005) is a genteel blue and white blend, in the style of 'Cloud Ballet' (Fort), but bigger, taller, and with improved plant habits. It makes a refreshing clump, a shimmering icy white heavily infused with crystalline sky blue throughout the flower. Branching appeared to be a bit close to the stalks, yet all the lower flowers opened properly.

'**Gentle Kiss**' (Christopherson 2004) is a sensuous blending of pastels in apricot, peach, buff, yellow and even rose-pink. To my eye, the overall effect is softest apricot, one of the most beautiful ever produced, graced with tight ruffling all the way around, standards and falls.

3. 9-1-1 Award

To the New Iris that is, in my opinion, the most significant hybridizing achievement or color break: '**Bluebeard's Ghost**' (Black 2006) is the most important SDB release since the introduction of 'Pele' (Aitken 1993), and is the culmination of a quest of over 20 years for the elusive blue-bearded white. It is purest cold white, accented with startling deep indigo blue beards – no other colors present. The only suggestion of any other color is the subtle green veining which appears in cooler weather, which contributes to the freshness of the flower. Plant habits are flawless, floriferous but with a good bloom/increase ratio. Patience and perseverance pay off, especially if you have talent, intuition, and vision.

Runners-up:

'**Redrock Princess**' (Witt 2006), an MTB, was the most impressive seedling seen (in any class) at the St. Louis Convention in 2005. It has medium brown standards, closed and ruffled. Rounded brick red falls have deeper veins at the base of the falls and pleasing white striations around gold beards. It consistently produced slender, flexuous stalks

with three branches, with foliage proportionate to the dainty flowers. The colors are rich, the form exceptional, and the overall garden effect memorable.

‘Solar Fire’ (Tasco 2003) is the best variegata Space Age iris released to date, possessing the modern form, smoothness of haft, and overall sophistication others have lacked. It has deep golden bronze standards, approximately the color of its pollen parent, ‘Golden Panther’ (Tasco), infused even deeper in the midribs. Falls are a very masculine oxblood red, with golden beards ending consistently in oxblood flounces. Magnificent show stalks for the show fanatic, with plenty of buds on those stalks for those gardeners who can’t bear to cut them for the show!

Exceptional deep pink Space Agers have been as equally difficult to develop. **‘Spirits Rising’** (L. Miller 2006), viewed as a first-year planting in the Will Rogers Garden Convention Garden for the upcoming 2007 AIS National Convention in Oklahoma City, was most impressive. Azalea pink flowers are fully saturated, with no other colors to adulterate the effect. Thick fuzzy deep pink beards end in horns which pop straight up to the sky.

‘Parisian Dawn’ (Keppel 2006), to me, is the most voluptuous and eloquent of many fine Emma Cook pattern irises on the market now. This sophisticated beauty has soft creamy apricot standards and falls, with the falls yielding to a well defined but subtle mauve-pink edge. Slightly deeper apricot texture veining over the falls add to the vitality of the flower. Thick orange-scarlet beards are like a maraschino cherry atop your favorite dessert. The standards are heavily ruffled but remain closed; the falls are so wide they touch at the hafts, with extravagant ruffling gracing the contrasted edging.

4. Sun Belt Award

To the Best Proven Variety, i.e., one that has been on the market long enough to be thoroughly tested in the Midwest (at least 4 years): **‘Heartstring Strummer’** (Ben Johnson 2001) has all the attributes one demands when considering an iris for the upper echelon of awards in the AIS Awards System. This sparkling, elegant blue amoena is imposing, in spite of its softer colors. Tall and stately, inheriting the height and magnificent branching of its Dykes Medalist parent, ‘Conjuration’ (Byers). Looking out over an expansive garden setting at the Smith-Giffin Garden on the Fresno Convention tour, it was literally head and shoulders above the crowd, majestic and strong. Plant habits are outstanding, without exception, and I gave it scrupulous critique in

gardens here in Oklahoma, in Missouri (where, in its home region, it won the President's Cup at the St. Louis Convention), the hot, dry climate of central California, to the cold damp conditions of the Pacific Northwest. The refreshing colors are clear as the sky, the ruffling of the nearly-horizontal falls give the flowers permission to dance in the breeze. A clump of this masterpiece lifts the spirits. This new hybridizer from Springfield, MO should be proud – he has a jewel!

Runners-up:

I continue to be impressed with '**Golden Panther**' (Tasco 2000), back to the first time I saw it as a reselect at Superstition. It receives A+ ratings in every category – branching is consistent, with strong stalks displaying well-spaced modified candelabra branching; plants are healthy and vigorous with excellent increase; form is impeccable, rounded with a finished look to its ruffling. The true test, especially for this color range, is its sun-resistance. It never burns, even in the hot dry climate of Oklahoma or central California. It retains its clarity of color even in a wet spring, a significant accomplishment in this color class, when this type of weather conditions tend to "muddy up" the picture. It has been consistent in every part of the country it has appeared, a true testament to its worthiness for consideration of the Dykes Medal.

'**Spouting Horn**' (L. Johnson 2001) has displayed consistent high quality in all parts of the country, including my garden here in central Oklahoma. It is a deeper version of its pollen parent, 'Honky Tonk Blues' (Schreiner), a deep sea blue to violet, lightening at the edges as its parent does. Pulsating ruffles are deep, rippling throughout the flower. Tall and noble, it has magnificent show stalk branching on strong stems with four branches, stalks often opening three at once, with plenty of backup buds to ensure a proper length of season. Plants are a gorgeous deep blue green, disease-resistant, and vigorous, producing stunning clumps in the garden.

'**Dandy Candy**' (Ernst 2001), in my opinion, is the finest iris this Oregon hybridizer has released to date. A confectionery delight in a rich dark-top, with medium purple standards and luscious bright peach falls, deeper at the shoulders around rich tangerine-orange beards. What you can't see in a varietal description is its magnificent texture, the falls displayed with a changeable silk effect with infiltration of the standards' color blended into the falls. It has been exceptional in every part of the country, with worthy mention of its plant habits and great stalks.

'**Vienna Waltz**' (Keppel 2000) is a luxurious presentation in rose-orchid with slightly deeper texture veins, then softened with an

underglow of cream. A pleasing coral-pink beard completes the picture. Although a full sister to the highly awarded-pink, 'Happenstance' (Keppel), it has a totally different look, with both heavy ruffling and lace, but with the same quality plant habits and stalk production.

5. Dark Horse Award

To the variety introduced within the past 10 years or so that has been overlooked by AIS judges and deserved higher awards: **'Pure As Gold'** (Maryott 1993) reminds me of my own creation, 'Aztec Sun' (1982), with intense saturation of color and sun-resistance, refusing to burn even on the hottest of days. This variety is even deeper, more golden than full yellow. It is also a reliable rebloomer in many zones. A great iris all around.

Runners-up:

'Wind Spirit' (Blyth 1996) is an IB from Down Under that, had it been a part of the AIS Awards System, surely would have gone far. It is a delicate mauve-orchid, a tone deeper in the falls, with vibrant tangerine beards. What sets this beauty apart from others is what happens in the falls – it is electrified with infusions of metallic blue and violet, undertones in rose-pink, all brought together like shot silk or changeable taffeta. It literally glows in the garden, and makes a soul-soothing clump.

'O' So Pretty' (Evelyn Kegerise 1993) is a special lilac amoena, with white standards flushed pale lilac, medium lilac falls, transforming to near-white in the heart of the flower, gradually intensifying as you come to the edge of the falls. White beards are tipped lilac and do not distract from the overall effect. The texture is diamond-dusted, and it has an effervescence in its nature which is easy on the eyes.

'Jennifer Rebecca' (Zurbrigg 1985) is a great, dependable rebloomer in old rose, with the standards a couple of tones lighter than the falls, then completed with a coral-shrimp beard. It has modern, wide form which many rebloomers from that era lacked, thick substance to sustain the flowers, and an underglow that gives carrying power to the flower, clear across the garden.

'Azure Icicle' (Hamner 1993) was barely noticed when it was first released. With the resurgence in popularity of the Emma Cook pattern, some hybridizers (namely Fred Kerr for one) have "backed up" and used this variety in their work. Well named, it is a crystalline work of art in glistening white, complemented with a tasteful band of azure blue in the falls.

6. Pick of the Litter Award -- to the most outstanding and

promising seedling personally viewed this season: **'King of Light'** (Baumunk 2007) is a perfect name for this grand new iris. The finest of many special seedlings viewed during the Portland National Convention, in every garden it shined in richest full gold with a unique copper (versus burnished) glow. In spite of less than desirable weather conditions, with rain and cold temperatures, this star maintained its composure and refused to go muddy. Magnificent stalks have 3 branches perfectly spaced, consistent throughout every clump, every stalk. Flawless plant habits with healthy foliage and very desirable vigor. It also sports an excellent bloom/increase ratio. The substance is thick, the texture leathery, the color projecting carrying power clear across the garden. I predict it will really be a dazzler in warmer, drier climates.

Runners-up:

T125B (Thomas Johnson): Look and say "ooh-la-la!". This is a heavily laced full orchid-lavender in the color of 'Feature Attraction' (Schreiner), even frillier and in a prettier shade of color. It has broad, horizontal falls. Flowers open properly, even with cool weather and heavy lace. Its great advancement, though, is in the plant habits – its growth and increase is about 10 times better than FA, with husky, tough, disease-resistant foliage! It produced magnificent stalks, with three branches in formal candelabra fashion.

AM-99/0415-1 (Anton Mego) is a wonderful, funky new bicolor fancy plicata Space Ager! Standards are solid medium yellow. Falls are horizontal in marbled red on white, reminiscent of a more colorful 'Aardvark Lark' (Black). Then, gold beards end in outlandish red flounces! Exotic, unique.

AM-99/0417-1 (Anton Mego) is my favorite of many fine, creative seedlings guested by this talented Slovakian hybridizer. It is a mysterious, downright spooky 'Jungle Shadows' (Sass-Graham) type of blend, with shocking dark violet (near-black) beards ending in horns sticking straight up in the air! The positioning in the flower of varying degrees of colors such as grey, gunmetal, slate, violet, and black is done in a series of shadows, eventually lightening at the flower edges in the style of 'Walking on Air' (Black). Stalks in the Mid-America Garden at the Portland Convention had four branches plus spur plus lower rebranching. Rich blue-green foliage with a heavy concentration of purple at the base just adds to the Twilight Zone effect of the plant.

0108 (Kanarowski): The finest of several promising seedlings from this new hybridizer. It was impressive at both the St. Louis and Portland Conventions, receiving one of my HC votes this season against some

stiff competition! It is a gorgeous compact blue amoena with bubble ruffling and even a suggestion of lace, unique for a blue amoena. Stalks were exceptional, with four branches, double socketed, consistently displayed in modified candelabra fashion.

Watch Party:

I'm always hesitant to describe seedlings still under number in the primary sections of Contemporary Views, because I believe that few people follow these reviews so closely as to go back and see if any I have recognized go on to be introduced. But with so many great seedlings seen these past two years, I don't think it's fair to limit the review to only five finalists for the Pick of the Litter. All of the following are Tall Bearded, unless otherwise indicated.

D27-A (Ben Johnson): Advancement in laced yellows has been slow to come by. This is a heavily laced medium sunshine yellow with deep yellow beards, reminiscent of 'Ritzy' (Hager-Cooley's) but with even heavier lace. Flowers open without twisting, even in cold wet weather. Standards retained their shape when others didn't. Strong stalks carry 2 to 3 branches. Good growth habits. A significant accomplishment in laced yellows.

T137A (Thomas Johnson): Similar to Pick of the Litter runner-up, T125B, in character and make-up, this seedling is a heavily laced lighter sky blue with white beards. Reminiscent of 'Charisma' (Blocher) except the application of color, including around the beards, is smoother. Style of branching is similar also, with a very formal look to the stalks. Perhaps not quite as vigorous as T125B, but still most acceptable. I hope both are introduced, because T137A is actually my favorite of the two.

02-92A (Keith Keppel): My favorite reselect in the hybridizer's home garden in Salem. From ('Inside Track' X 'Spice Lord'), we have a dazzling, rich plicata, displayed with solid wine standards, pure white falls with a distinct 3/4" band in wine, then just a hint of yellow in the base color closer to the heart of the flower. Seriously ruffled. Magnificent stalks, strong, carrying four branches. Superb plant habits.

98-42A (Stephanie Markham): Was the best of several very promising MTBs from this gifted young hybridizer. It reminded me of 'Among Friends' (Varner), a neglecta with lightest blue (nearly white) standards, rich violet-blue falls with a 1/4" edge of the standards' color. Excellent branching, small dainty foliage.

Anton Mego is one of the rising stars in iris hybridizing. This European hybridizer (from Slovakia) is doing some of the most innovative work – anywhere – and his guests at the conventions have been most

impressive. In addition to the two seedlings which made the Top 5 list for the Pick of the Litter Award, the following were also of merit:

AM-96/0121-13 (Mego): A full blue amoena with contrasting beards. White standards have an unusual filigree in blue. Falls are contrasted with bold, fully saturated violet-blue, deepening at the edges, then topped off with bright red to burnt orange beards. Falls are heavily ruffled and horizontal. Decent stalks, consistently producing three branches. It has good growth habits. A complete package, very exciting, and definitely an improvement in red-bearded blue amoenas.

AM-99/0387-1 (Mego): Is reminiscent of the classic 'Planned Treasure' (Burger) with clean pink standards and complementary orchid-lavender falls, but accented with coral horns. Thin, somewhat willowy stalks suggest that 'Conjuration' (Byers) is in its background, and were leaning a bit at the Theissen Garden at the St. Louis Convention.

AM-99/0393-02 (Mego): This one is a modern 'Color Carnival' (DeForest 1949) done in apricot, with dazzling, clever patterning in the falls. Excellent plants produce stalks with 4 branches and lower rebranching. The only American hybridizer even close to doing similar work might be Paul Black from Oregon.

00-181A (Merle Roberts): Impressive at both the St. Louis (2005) and Portland (2006) Conventions, it is a white in the Emma Cook pattern, with the banding in the falls in blue. Whereas the Kerr "Emma Cooks" (e.g., 'Queen's Circle', 'Sapphire Halo', etc.) are crystalline, cold whites, this seedling is fitted with a leathery texture in a warm white. Either way, both types are attractive in their own right.

V-350 (Terry Varner, MTB): Was one of two very impressive blues seen at both the Fresno and St. Louis Conventions. The other, 'Lady Tara' (Seedling R-303) is a darker blue; V-350 is suave medium blue. As with 'Lady Tara', the branching and bud count are spectacular – 4 branches, 10-12 buds. It is distinctive enough from 'Lady Tara' to be worthy of introduction also.

Z01-33-1 (Mike Zuraw, MTB): Very impressive, from a new hybridizer from New England. A clean, smooth lilac-orchid amoena with excellent form and clarity of color. It carried three branches, double-socketed, with stalks the correct thickness and height for the class. Several excellent MTB seedlings were observed these past two seasons; this one is as fine as any of the others. 🌹

Culture Corner

Terry Aitken, Washington State

Over the years, I have promoted the use of Alfalfa pellets at transplant time because it contains a chemical called TRICONTINOL which is a root growth stimulant in addition to 5% nitrogen fertilizer. Chicken feathers (promoted mostly for the image that it conjures!) contain about 5% nitrogen. These products have behaved as advertised. The problem we came to realize was that they needed to be applied annually because the organic matter disappeared in less than a year. Our most recent thrust has been to find an organic product, with residual benefit for a longer time frame which would improve the tilth of the soil.

We are currently using horse manure mixed with wood shavings. The fresh load is watered down to facilitate decomposition and then piled high to decompose for about 3 months. Since the initial product is rather odoriferous, we cover it with tarps which helps hold in the moisture and the odor. The pile needs to be turned over every month. The end product, when spread on beardless irises, provides a wonderful mulch of wood shavings and a mild fertilizer. All of our beardless irises are enthusiastic about horse manure! When the weather dries out for the summer, we even spread it on the bearded irises as a mulch. This material gets tilled in at transplant time. In the spring after danger of a hard freeze is past (1st of May in the Northwest), we add high nitrogen fertilizer to compensate for the decomposition of the wood shavings which absorbs a lot of nitrogen.

There is a new product available in Garden Centers called BAYER ADVANCED 2-in-1 SYSTEMIC ROSE AND FLOWER CARE. It is a "cure all" intended for Roses and other flowers. I figure anything that works on Roses will work on Irises. It is a granular form of systemic insecticide and fungicide which is absorbed through the roots. No leaf spot and no bugs. It claims to control Whiteflies, Thrips and Spider Mites, some of the toughest bugs we know. The jury is still out on that claim. It also includes a bloom booster fertilizer. One application does it all.

Another interesting product, reported to me by Julie and Clair Bossum of Auburn, WA, is called MESSENGER and can be found by googling EDEN BIOSCIENCE. They conveniently list local garden centers that carry the product and I found one about a mile from my

place. It is a foliar spray that dramatically enhances plant growth within weeks. It certainly woke up some reluctant growers, including irises, in my yard. It is also touted as an aid in disease resistance but I have not had the opportunity to observe that aspect yet.

Another product we are trying is MYCORRHIZAL FUNGI called MYCOAPPLY ROOT DIP GEL. It is a root dip gel actually intended for trees used in reforestation projects. This product is available at www.mycoapply.com. This company is located in Grants Pass, OR. Cost is about \$30 per pound, which will transplant at least an acre of irises. Last fall when we were transplanting, all of our bearded irises were root dipped in a slurry of this material. This summer, those fields are showing good resistance to root rot (*Pythium*), which was a problem caused by excessive rain last year. Those plants had significantly less leaf spot in spite of our untimely rains during the convention this spring. Growth is more robust and fans are maturing (showing increases) earlier than last year.

Weed retardants make a gardener's life much more enjoyable. The most popular one in use among growers in the Portland/Salem area appears to be RONSTAR 'G'. It certainly seems to control the broadest range of weeds including Oxalis and Clover. There are a few things to watch out for. If you don't apply the granular material heavily enough (I have an instinctive tendency to skim because it can cost \$70 to \$95 per 50 pound bag), it does not control the weeds. If you don't get at least 1/2" of water on the ground to activate it, it does not work. Even when you do get it applied effectively, it actually stimulates the growth of Irish Moss, more correctly identified by Joe Ghio as Pearlywart. This stuff forms an impervious carpet which cannot be hand weeded. To get rid of the Pearlywart, we spray with liquid SURFLAN (ORYZALIN 4 PRO), a brilliant orange, rather ineffective weed retardant which mixes very poorly with water. It also dyes the iris foliage orangey-brown and that color can last for a month or more but it sure kills the Pearlywart! The strategy seems to be to apply RONSTAR G immediately after fall transplant even before you water the iris plants. That should keep you relatively weed free into the spring bloom season. Before bloomtime, apply SURFLAN XL 2G as a granular spring weed retardant which should get you well into summer with minimum weeds. If Pearlywart shows up, apply SURFLAN (liquid) as a spot spray. (You can overspray on the irises but it sure is colorful!) These products range in price from \$75 to \$100 per 50 lb. bag and are available through farm supply stores.

It is illegal to have a completely weed free garden (an Aitken house rule). Our one-two punch for killing weeds is a combination of ROUNDUP (a much cheaper generic name is GLY STAR) and CROSSBOW. One gets grass and the other gets broad leaf weeds. Do

NOT get this on your irises as it is a potent combination.

Got grass in your iris clumps? Will Plotner suggests ENVOY. His observation suggests that you can overspray on the irises and that grass growth stops immediately but the grass actually dies very slowly over 8 to 10 weeks. I suppose you could cut the grass tops off and just let the roots die quietly over time.

These tricks of the trade should make iris gardening a more carefree and enjoyable experience. ♪



'Decadence' (Blyth)

Photo by Melanie North

Growing Irises in the Center of Europe

Zdenik Seidl, Czech Republic

I've put together some notes from the speech I gave at the AIS Convention in Portland in 2006.

Growing irises in the Silesia Region (part of the Czech Republic and Poland) is influenced by different types of climate during the year, because all seasons are different and changeable.

Winter season is very changeable, depending on the direction of the wind. When the wind is blown from the sea (from the west or south), winter months are wet and relatively warm. Temperature could be above zero (to 10 ° C), and precipitation is more likely to be rain than snow. Sometimes, when the wind comes from the continent (from the east), the temperature can suddenly drop below zero and the weather becomes dry. These months are frosty in this case, and the temperature can reach to about -20 ° C (rarely once in 10 or 20 years near to -30 ° C). At this time there are many dangers for irises. Wind from the north causes similar cold, but it brings wetter weather with more snow, which is more comfortable for irises.

For example, the winter of 2005-06 was very cold with a large amount of snow. There was about 60 cm of snow from the beginning of December to March. It was very useful for plants because the snow protected the plants from temperatures around -10 ° C, which lasted for an unusually long period.

Springs are sometimes short with rapidly rising temperature, which can influence the quality of the iris stalks. With such rapid temperature increase, stalks are shorter and bloom is earlier than usual. Every year we wish for a long, mild spring, because the irises need it.

TB irises generally bloom from the middle of May to the middle of July, as do the Siberians. Siberians are native to our region, and their bloom time is reliable. I think that all native irises are very easy to grow in Middle Europe. For example *I. pumila*, *I. pseudacorus*, *I. spuria* and *I. aphylla* are from nearby regions, and the forebears of TBs are also from the nearby Mediterranean region.

The largest amount of rain is always expected around Saint

Medard's Day. *[Editor's Note: This required a quick run to Google! Saint Medard's Day, with which I was completely unfamiliar, is celebrated on June 8th. Apparently, it is also celebrated in France, and even in some parts of Louisiana.]* In our country we have a proverb: "Medard's drop is for forty days dropping". This time of year often brings many dangers for irises. However, June of 2005 was very hot and dry, and we actually had to water the irises. We were happy to see that our irises were big and healthy. And then of course we hope that winter will provide enough snow and new increase will survive without damage.


Autumns are usually very stable. September and October is the time of "Indian Summer" (which is called "Grandmother's Summer" here in the Czech Republic).

Of course there are small differences between the Czech and Polish sections of Silesia. But the principal conditions for growing irises are very similar, and in general can be considered the same throughout Europe, with the exception of the Mediterranean countries. Of course there are regional differences in the soil. Here in Hlucin where I live, we have acid soil. Maybe it is not ideal for bearded irises, but it is nice for the beardless. If we want, we can add some lime to increase the pH. But I think that pH around 6.5 is good enough for TBs and of course it is excellent for SIBs and JIs. And that is why we can grow many types of irises.

What cultivars do well here? Irises from Oregon and Washington tend to grow very well. Sometimes in the past we had problems with growing irises of Californian origin, but nowadays those problems do not seem to be as prevalent.

Hybridizing of all types of rises (TB, SIB, SDB, MTB, IB, BB, JI and SPU) is very easy with mostly 70 % germination. This refers only to germination, not to fertility; I think that the fertility rate depends on the parents involved in each cross. Some crosses aren't successful or some seeds aren't viable.

There are about five hybridizers in the Czech Republic, and about two Slovak and five Polish hybridizers. We are all members of the Middle European Iris Society (MEIS); the total number of members is around 100.

We have favorable conditions for growing irises. As I told the audience at the AIS Convention: Growing irises in our region is neither as bad as you expected nor as good as we wish! 

Milestones

Compiled by Jim Morris


When this column debuted in the January 2007 AIS *Bulletin*, it was hoped that significant events of our many affiliate clubs could be reported herein, and that it would not merely be shortened local obituaries. My byline was left off the first column in hopes that someone else might be a “bobble-head”, stepping forward to lead it. That hasn’t happened yet, and in order to provide an information focal point my byline has been added.

I encourage **anyone** who has significant news about their club to contact me by letter (682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021) or by email at morrisje1@aol.com. I thank Pat Otterness and Robin Rundle for some of the information on Neil Mogensen and Keith Chadwick.

Neil Mogensen (1937 – 2006) Mogensen, 68, of Arden, North Carolina, was born in Idaho and was a farmer for the first part of his life. He had been a member of AIS Robin “Teens and Twenties” in the 1960s with Keith Keppel, Joe Ghio, Phil Edinger, Steve Moldovan and Larry Harder. He married his late first wife, Roberta, in 1963. He introduced a few irises in this period and even won an HM in 1964 with ‘Sigrid’ (1961 AR). Spiritual by choice, he entered seminary at Sewanee, The University of the South in Tennessee, in 1981. Later in his ministry with frequent moves he was out of irises, not getting back in until retirement and remarriage in 1998. With his return, he registered ‘Power Woman’ in 2003, but then he was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Keith Chadwick (1924 – 2006) Chadwick, 82, of Caldwell, Idaho, was a lifelong farmer and through the years became known as an iris hybridizer. He established Sand Hollow Iris Gardens, selling irises nationwide. His catalogs were published from 1998 through 2006. He registered 124 irises, all but ten with the first word being “Oasis”. Most of his children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends have an iris bearing their name. ‘Oasis Patches’ (2002 TB) was well received as a guest iris at recent AIS Conventions and it won an HM in 2005.

Dolores “Dodo” Denney will be deeply missed by those who knew her as an irisarian and gardener, and by those who knew her as an actress and radio personality in the Los Angeles area. Jerry Moorhead writes: “What can I say about Deloris Denney, outside of the fact that I will miss her. Dodo was definitely a California connection; I missed her

when she moved Back East for a while. On both coasts she joined many garden clubs (started one of her own) and other societies, including of course iris societies. Dodo was an excellent judge of iris and I enjoyed her knowledgeable comments when we were bus mates at conventions. Dodo had a winning way and a twinkle in her eye. She was one of the irisarians that I knew the longest. I will miss her, but prefer to think of her as 'Back East' again. Love you, Dodo." 


Further Food for Thought

Cindy Rust, Missouri

I read with interest George Waters' article "Food For Thought." The variety 'Odoratissima', mentioned in the article, is by far the best pallida we grow. It is always a good grower, regardless the weather; it blooms every spring profusely with no excuses and has the nicest scent an iris can have. Of course, its form is old and it does not rebloom. I think the older diploids that are left are, of course, the best there are or they wouldn't still be here. There is no doubt that the MTBs, as a class, are the hardiest medians by far, although MDBs certainly equal them. The diploid MTBs are very vigorous and are as good of performers as 'Odoratissima', as a class. The tetraploid species, aphylla, is a mixed performer with some clones ('Polonica', for instance) being particularly good performers every year, and some just disappearing ('Thisbe', for instance). Some of the tetraploid MTBs are stunningly good performers and some aren't. The dependable rebloomers, as a class, are also vigorous and floriferous. A plus for them is that they offer more modern form than the diploids. Perhaps an answer for Mr. Waters is to look at the very dependable rebloomers and try a few of them, in addition to the diploids he already admires and grows. I wouldn't look at the ones that only rebloom in California, but ones that do well all around the country.

Our hybridizing goals are quite unusual (we want fully modern MTBs with fragrance and rebloom) but plant vigor and floriferousness as well as rebloom are important requisites in our program. Our goals are stringent enough that it will be a while before we introduce anything because we want it all: proper proportion, fragrance, rebloom, vigor. That is a big task, but we are not the only hybridizers working towards that goal. Paul Black and Thomas Johnson, for instance, are working toward vigorous and dependable

growth in plicatas and luminatas; a class plagued with beautiful flowers and poor plant habits. They are having some very good success. The Spoons have been working for many years on “landscaping” irises that are pretty, and yet very vigorous even when neglected; rebloom is important to them too. Lowell Baumunk has produced some very pretty flowers on extremely vigorous plants, even in the plicata and luminata patterns.

So let Mr. Waters know we have heard him and sympathize with his plight. It takes a while to get everything in one package, but there are hybridizers working towards the kind of plant he wants. 

Outside Looking In

Michèle Bersillon, France

Without losing sight of George Waters’ initial plea for more disease resistant, trouble-free garden plants – a legitimate request – I’d like to offer a point of view from someone cultivating and hybridizing bearded iris outside North America.

Let me first admit that I am blessed with a nearly ideal situation for growing bearded iris: a slightly sloped southern exposure, well-drained loamy soil, and plenty of sun. I cultivate iris bred and selected in North America, Italy, Slovakia, England, Australia, and other areas of France. Some cultivars do better than others, of course, and I have had rhizomes die from time to time very much like anyone else who grows these plants. Only once in nearly twenty years have I lost a bearded iris rhizome specifically to soft rot and this was only because I wasn’t there in time to do anything about it. I do have to constantly combat leaf spot, and there again some plants are always more affected than others. I might add that I apply a minimum of fungicide on my plants, with one treatment as early as feasible in the spring, which seems to limit much of the problem, and I then make every effort to remove any diseased foliage as the season progresses.

As I have not had much experience growing historical iris. What I am now wondering, after reading about how resistant old varieties are is: At what point in time did bearded iris lose their ability to resist disease? Are all of them really that resistant and how many generations of human tampering did it take before “modern” irises became so vulnerable?

As a hybridizer, my personal responsibility is to do my very best to

observe my seedlings and discard those that are obviously weak and disease-prone. That may sound simple, but the hybridizer's task is a complicated one, after all . We are expected to breed irises that are constantly better in every way, with more buds, better substance, strong stalks, dependable bloom, better form, ruffles, lace and so on, not to mention new and different colours and colour combinations! I do not believe that requiring seedlings from all over the world to be vetted by obligatory test garden observation in North America before their registration and/or introduction would offer a way to have more resistant cultivars. Part of the hybridizer's job is precisely to select and re-select seedlings and then decide which are truly worthy of registration and introduction, otherwise the hybridizer become reduced to nothing but a pair of hands that daub pollen! Then the introducer has responsibility of choosing the best plants for his/her catalogue. After that, it becomes the judges' and the iris buyers' jobs to decide which plants *stay* on the market; judges with their votes and iris buyers with their order forms.

Now, can every bearded iris be expected to do well in all climates and is this even a reasonable requirement? For instance, can one expect a plant bred and selected in southern California or southern France to do well in places like Michigan, Ontario or Northern England and the reverse? Even then, there are micro-climates that might allow some people to grow cultivars that others in the same area cannot grow. It may be a good practice to notice where an iris comes from when contemplating its acquisition and also to know one's garden very well.

Finally, what of the difference between a "superstar" iris developed to win competitions and an ordinary "good garden performer" (that is, if they still exist!) – Can they be one and the same? Is an iris always necessarily "good" because it has won a lot of titles?; and is another plant less satisfying if it has never won a medal?

Food for thought indeed... Let's just make sure we don't throw the baby out with the bathwater! 

Visit the AIS web site at www.irises.org

My Story

by Peaches in Wine

(with assistance from Heather Pryor, Australia)

The year is 1993. At this point in time I'm nothing more than a "twinkle" in my hybridizer's eye. However, I know that she's thinking about the season to come – and I know that expectations are high for a good season.

The scene is now the seedling patch. On 5th October, 1993, the cross was executed – and my life began. The cross was to be known as 7/93; pollen from my hybridizer's favorite Taylor iris, 'Lucy Payens', was put onto 'Bushfire Moon' (which was, itself, still a seedling in the garden at this time). This cross was done several times over the season, but only the seeds from my cross, 7/93, survived to be collected and to subsequently germinate.

Two pods of 7/93 were ultimately produced, with 35 and 42 seeds respectively – and these were harvested on 19th January, 1994.

I had endured a difficult creative period – even while my seedpod was still forming and maturing on 'Bushfire Moon'. During the spring and early summer (November and December) of 1993, the seedpods on 'Bushfire Moon' had a near escape from an unintentional runaway lawnmower. I also apparently endured a dousing with boiling water and an intentional (but badly aimed!) squirt of herbicide before maturing enough to be plucked from my pod parent. (Some people just don't like flowers, do they?!) My hybridizer's good friend, fellow SLI member Richard Goula, was visiting from the USA during this time – and I know that he can attest to the difficulties I had to endure to mature to a seed pod.

All of these problems aside, the seeds from the two seed pods that did mature were planted on 26th February, 1994. The larger pod had lots of black, moldy seeds. I'm not entirely sure which of the two pods I came from. The two seedpods were put into separate pots and then the long wait for germination started... The first seeds were recorded by my hybridizer as appearing out of the soil on 1st January, 1995. Once old enough to fend for ourselves, my fellow seedlings and I were then carefully removed from the 'home pots' in March, 1995. However, only three seedlings were planted out in May of 1995, into the present Iris Haven nursery location, from the potential 77 seeds. I was one of those

three seedlings! That “rocky road” became as smooth as silk for a while, as I settled into my new garden home and enjoyed regular feeding, mulching and pampering. I could get used to this!

I first bloomed in October of 1995 and my hybridizer gave me the name of “Seedling 7/93-A”. What a wonderful surprise I was! My hybridizer’s initial notes record quite simply: “Better Lucy??? KEEP.” The reason for such a comment is due, of course, to the fact that LUCY PAYENS has often shown black “ink spots” on the foliage during bloom time – and I did not exhibit this trait. So I was spared a short trip to the compost bin. I’d at least managed to keep a toehold in the garden for another year...

Incidentally, one of my siblings, 7/93-B, was a wonderful orange-yellow self, with a similar coloration to ‘Bushfire Moon’. However, as it exhibited odd extra petals from flower to flower, it was discarded in 1996. The third sibling was not even commented upon in my hybridizer’s book, so this one probably had “Bow Wow – OUT” written on its tag – and it ultimately went to that great compost pile in the sky... I was now the only seedling left from 77 seeds! I had to turn on the charm – and inspire my hybridizer. “Sparkle or perish” seemed like a good mantra...

After all of the hurly-burly of bloom season, it is not usually until after Christmas, in mid summer, that a decision is made whether to register a seedling or not. At least that’s how it happens at our place! By then, the summer fruit season was in full swing. My flower coloration apparently inspired my name, and on 20th January, 1997, I was officially registered as ‘Peaches in Wine’.

But I get ahead of myself! In July of 1996, while still bearing the seedling name of 7/93-A, I found my way into the NSW Regional Trial Garden. I was awarded a HC and HM by 1997. However, the rocky road re-appeared for me after that. Sadly, in January of 2000, two large pots were returned to my hybridizer from the NSW Trial Garden system. The two pots had 17 and 12 dead flower stalks still visible on them – and the pots were badly infiltrated with bulrushes. I had done my best to impress (bulrushes and all!) but I did not progress any further via this route.

My hybridizer subsequently de-canted my rhizomes and re-planted them into the main Iris Haven garden, where they thrived again. These rhizomes have gone on to new homes in various parts of Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and the USA since that time.


Meanwhile, in April of 1998, a total of 21 rhizomes traveled across the equator to the then Lone Star Iris Garden in Dallas, Texas. I was a co-release cultivar for Lone Star/Iris Haven in 1998. In early 2000, an

additional 8 extra rhizomes went to Dallas to augment the gardens. With the untimely demise of Lone Star Iris Garden, I was again to endure a period of difficult cultural attention - until I found my way into the hearts and gardens of American iris enthusiasts.

The AIS Judges' Ballot was kind to me. Judges of the AIS awarded me an AIS HM in 2002 and an AM in 2004. In 2006 I was given the highest accolade, being awarded the Mary Swords DeBaillon Award - and that's why you are reading all of this.

Nearly 13 years have now passed since my difficult early years as a seed, then as a seedling surviving all manner of difficulties, until I found favor and attention in my hybridizer's seedling patch. Since then I've been treated like gold dust - and not. However I've managed to keep growing, despite all manner of challenges.

For those of you reading this, please spare a thought for the 'life and times' of each cultivar that you grow. While some may have enjoyed a golden path of luxurious enchantment from their very beginning, others will no doubt have traveled the rocky road of life to get your attention.

I know that my hybridizer looks back at 1993 now with mixed feelings. Many of her own "ups and downs" are a distant (but still painful) memory. I'm pleased to be one of the highlights of her hybridizing career. I know that she feels very honored and humbled by my being named as the 2006 Mary Swords DeBaillon awardee. I know that I've now found favor with iris enthusiasts around the globe. I thank you all for your enthusiasm for Louisiana irises - and for allowing me to "sparkle" in your garden. 

The AIS Nominating Committee is seeking your recommendation of individuals that you believe should be considered in the selection of nominees for the AIS Board of Directors.

The recommended nominee must be an AIS member in good standing. A nomination should include some qualification comments. We strongly recommend that the individuals being nominated NOT be contacted in advance of the suggested nomination. The Nominating Committee will consider all candidates and then will contact the individuals that are being selected by the committee. Please contact one of the following Nominating Committee members: Debby Cole (dcthree@juno.com), Carolyn Hawkins (carolyn9999@comcast.net), Brad Kasperek (zebrairis1@aol.com), Ann Violette (aviolet@montanasky.net), Gary White (in2iris@yahoo.com).

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compiled by Donna James, Donations Secretary

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Two views of 'Telepathy' (Keppel) displaying typical luminata pattern. (See article by Jean Witt.)



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View Before You Buy! The official AIS Website now has photos of several of the Storefront sales items, so you can see what they look like.

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AIS can now accept VISA & Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: \$10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date and phone number.

Prices include postage and handling. The Storefront ships via media mail. Priority, overnight and UPS shipment charges paid by customer. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society, or include charge card information.

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Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check for \$7.50 to Dwarf Iris Society.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Ron James, 887 County Route 3, Hannibal, NY 13074; <ron2don@alltel.net> Rental fee \$10.00. Check to HIPS.

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Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. Check for \$5.00 to Median Iris Society (MIS). One set free per year to affiliates.

Pacific Coast Native: Contact Damon Hill, 4613 Maddock Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472-9768. Rental fee \$7.50 to SPCNI. 2 sets available, species or hybrids.

Rebloomers: Contact George Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville, CA 93257; <info@suttoniris.com>. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

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two years or older; not all issues available

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AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

"Without advertising, a terrible thing happens...nothing!"

Ad Submission Requirements

To place an ad, please contact the advertising editor. All ads must have a hard copy submitted to the advertising editor. List of specifications regarding digital submissions is available. We can not accept MS Publisher or WordPerfect files, as we do not have software to open them. Payment is due with ad copy. The deadlines for ad submissions are as follows: August 15 (October issue); November 15 (January issue), February 15 (April issue), May 15 (July issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to: George Sutton.

Shopping Section

Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues. All ads are 2½ inch wide.

\$44.00	1 15/16 inch
\$60.00	1 1 15/16 inch
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\$350.00	Full page, inside back cover.
\$350.00	Full page, inside front cover.
\$450.00	Full page, outside back cover.

Please note new advertising rates, effective for the Bulletin of April, 2005. Contact George & Margaret Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville, CA 93257; (559) 784-5107; <info@suttoniris.com>

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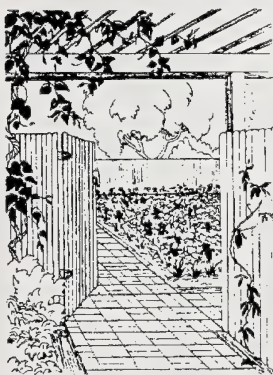
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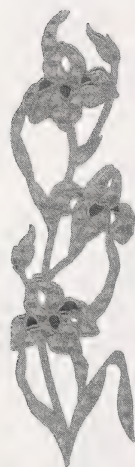
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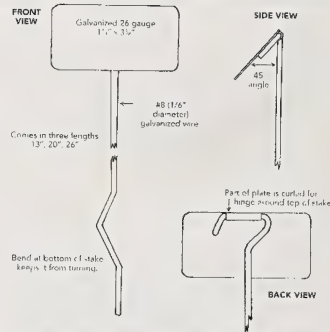
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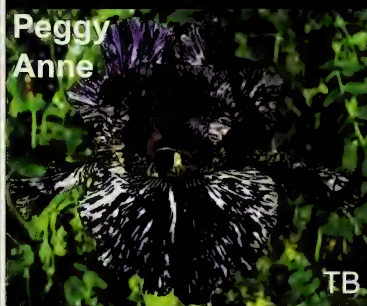
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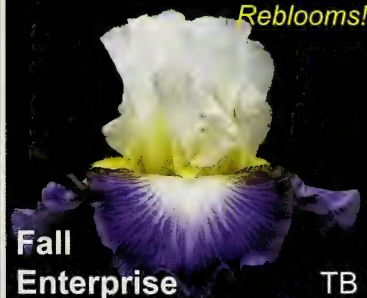
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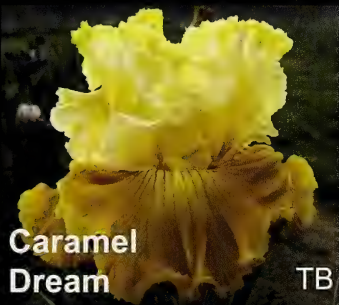


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"Iris Chinensis" (so called), now *I. japonica*. Tab. 373 of vol. 11 (1797) of Curtis' *Botanical Magazine*.
(See article by Anner Whitehead)

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80 years of the Presby Memorial Garden
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July 2007

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The American Iris Society

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

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A SUPPLEMENT TO THE
Bulletin of the American Iris Society

ISSN 0747-4172

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Series No. 346

Section 2

July 2007

2008 Tall Bearded Iris Symposium Ballot

Please vote for your favorite 25 Tall Bearded Iris Varieties

All members of the American Iris Society are urged to participate in this ballot in order that we may obtain a wide consensus of the tall bearded iris varieties that grow and bloom best in gardens throughout America. AIS affiliates are invited to vote, in addition to individuals. Mail the completed ballot to your RVP so that it is received by September 1, 2007. Final results will be published as the popularity poll in a future issue of the Bulletin. Please vote!

Attention: *Overseas Members* are invited to vote the Symposium Ballot. Instructions and the deadline are on the following page, item #5.

Please Vote

Sixty-seventh Official Tall Bearded Iris Symposium of the American Iris Society
2008

This is your ballot to help determine the One Hundred Favorite Tall Bearded Irises for 2008. The list of candidates was completed by combining the following lists of outstanding varieties:

- The 100 top varieties in last year's Symposium
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 2007 Dykes Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 2007 Wister Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 2007 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 2006 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 2006 Honorable Mentions

Every member of The American Iris Society may participate in this balloting of the irises listed on the following pages. Each member is allowed twenty-five votes. Please follow the instructions below.

1. Vote only for an iris that you have seen blooming in a garden.
2. Clearly place an "X" in front of each of your twenty-five favorites. The second member of a family membership should use an "O" symbol to designate votes. Additional family or youth members should use a number (1, 2, 3, etc.) in front of each vote to identify it. Each member is entitled to a maximum of twenty-five votes. Since the ballot is designed for easy tabulation by the Regional Vice Presidents, please follow directions carefully.
3. No member may vote for more than twenty-five varieties. You may vote for fewer than twenty-five if you wish. Write-in votes are not allowed and will not be tabulated.
4. **Your ballot must be mailed to and received by your Regional Vice President by September 1, 2007** in order to be counted. The name of your RVP is listed inside each AIS *Bulletin*. Sign your ballot and mail it first class. Each RVP now has the option of accepting ballots by email (by number or by name).
5. *Overseas Members* may vote by mailing their ballot to the Symposium Committee Chairman whose name, email, and address appear inside each AIS *Bulletin*. It is advisable to send by Air Mail to assure receipt of your Ballot by September 30, 2007. Ballots received later will be counted if at all possible, so please vote even if you can not meet that date. Email is an acceptable alternative (either numbers-only, or numbers and names), and a representative in each foreign country can tally that country's votes and send the totals and voters to the Symposium Chair by email or mail.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

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___3 ABIQUA FALLS
___4 ABOVE THE CLOUDS
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___28 BAYBERRY CANDLE
___29 BEARY BEARY
___30 BEFORE THE STORM
___31 BEL ESPRIT
___32 BEVERLY SILLS
___33 BEWILDERBEAST
___34 BEWITCHMENT
___35 BLACK SUITED
___36 BLACKBERRY TEASE
___37 BLONDE MADONNA
___38 BLUE KENTUCKY GIRL
___39 BLUEBERRY BLISS

___40 BODY AND SOUL
___41 BOLD ENCOUNTER
___42 BOLD EXPRESSION
___43 BOLD VISION
___44 BOOGIE WOOGIE
___45 BOYSENBERRY BUTTERCUP
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Bluffton, IN 46714-0131
Phone 1 (260) 824 4563

COOK-WILLIAMSON MEMORIAL GARDEN Bluffton, IN

Bluffton, Indiana is creating an historical memorial garden to honor the four hybridizers who lived there, Paul and Emma Cook and Edward Bruce (E.B.) Williamson along with daughter, Mary Williamson. The hybrids are dated between 1916 through 1968 and may include over 160 plants.

Jerry Oswalt has been acquiring cultivars for this project for the past 2 years and has a list of the plants that these four people hybridized. Please contact him if you think you might have some of the missing plants.

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Mr. Jerry Oswalt
PO Box 131
Bluffton, IN 46714-0131
Phone 1 (260) 824 4563

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___ 467 WINTRY SKY
___ 468 WORLD PREMIER
___ 469 YAQUINA BLUE
___ 470 YOSEMITE SAM
___ 471 ZEBRA MILK

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Median Iris Society:

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<cyberiris@cablespeed.com>

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Society for Japanese Irises:

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Catherine Button, 70 Sharpless Boulevard, Westhampton, NJ, 08060;

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Charlie Brown, 3114 S. FM 131, Denison, TX 75020; <broiris@cableone.net>

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Aril Society International:

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Reita Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107; <sjordan@unm.edu>

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Richard Sloan, 118 East Walnut, Alma AR 72921; <rjsloan@mynewroads.com>

Section Membership Rates: (Contact Section for overseas postage rates)	<i>single annual</i>	<i>single triennial</i>	<i>dual annual</i>	<i>dual triennial</i>
Median Iris Society	\$8.00	20.00	9.00	23.00
Society for Siberian Iris	10.00	25.00	12.00	30.00
Spuria Iris Society	9.00	20.00	12.00	24.00
Society for Japanese Iris	5.00	12.50	6.00	15.50
Reblooming Iris Society	7.00	18.00	8.00	21.00
Society for PCNs	8.00	20.00	10.00	23.00
Species Iris Group (SIGNA)	12.00	32.00	12.00	32.00
Dwarf Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	10.00	24.00	12.00	30.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	13.50	33.50
Society for Louisiana Irises	13.00	32.00	16.00	44.00

Regions & Regional Vice Presidents

- 1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island:** David Nitka, 589 North Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-1309; (413) 786-5344; <nitka@att.net>
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President's Message

Jeanne Clay Plank, California

Welcome to Jim Morris, who is serving in the capacity of Guest Editor for the July 2007 *AIS Bulletin*. The AIS Board of Directors is very pleased that Jim agreed to wear the Editor's hat for this issue.


The Oklahoma AIS Convention was a memorably successful event. Convention attendees were greeted with an array of lovely gardens displaying a wide variety of irises to view and enjoy. Oklahomans, well known for their gracious hospitality, proved once again that this is a well-deserved reputation.

2007 is a Milestone year for Oklahoma – a centennial event marking the beginnings of Oklahoma as a state. Oklahomans are proud of their history and they are celebrating their longevity with pride. Celebrating milestones of this magnitude are unquestioned, but there are many smaller milestones that enter the lives of each of us and of our organizations. Taking note of these events helps us to keep a perspective on whom we are, what we have experienced and what has been accomplished over the years.

In January 2007 a new column debuted in the *AIS Bulletin* called "Milestones," the purpose of which is to highlight important events in the lives of all AIS divisions – national, regional, affiliates and sections. This column, which is intended to become an *AIS Bulletin* regular feature, is edited by Jim Morris. Jim also serves as *Bulletin* obituary editor, however, his goal for "Milestones" is to report -- over and beyond obituaries – additional milestones, those other happenings significant to the various divisions of the AIS parent.

A region, affiliate or section event honoring a local hybridizer; or a prominent irisarian; or an important anniversary in the life of a region, affiliate or section are all prime material for "Milestones." Events that are noteworthy in the life of any division of AIS should be reported to Jim with enough details to illuminate the event's significance. Contact Jim at <morrisje1@aol.com> to report "milestones" involving your group.

"Milestones" is a column that belongs to all irisarians. It is a place to pay homage to those who have died, to pay tribute to those who stand out for the work they do on behalf of AIS, and to applaud the existence of the many divisions of AIS that enrich our knowledge and enjoyment of iris diversity. Every "Milestones" column adds a little bit

to, as well as becoming a part of, AIS history, and within our AIS history is the identity of our organization. Our future grows forward from our past. It is our ability to keep in mind people and events of the past, while we applaud the people and events of the present, that produces the irisarian community that we all enjoy! 

Officer Generic Email

by John Jones

Want to email one of the AIS officers?

The Editor of the *Bulletin*?


Need to advertise?

Not sure who the new officer is?

Don't know their personal email address?

Now it is easier than ever. The AIS provides special addresses for individuals serving certain AIS positions. The following email addresses will always reach the person currently holding the associated position:

AISPresident@irises.org	for the AIS President
AISFirstVP@irises.org	for the AIS First Vice President
AISSecondVP@irises.org	for the AIS Second Vice President
AISSecretary@irises.org	for the AIS General Secretary
AISTreasurer@irises.org	for the AIS Treasurer
AISRegistrar@irises.org	for the AIS Registrar
AISMemSec@irises.org	for the AIS Membership Secretary
AISStore@irises.org	for the AIS Storefront
AISAdvertising@irises.org	for <i>Bulletin</i> Advertising
Editor@irises.org	for the <i>Bulletin</i> Editor

When the person who fills a particular position changes, the AIS address is assigned to the new individual so email will always reach the right person. 

Guest Editor's Message

Jim Morris, Missouri

When Jeanne Plank asked me a few months ago if I would consider being Guest Editor, I agreed to think about it. Eventually I became a "bobble-head" and decided to guest edit this July issue. I've had significant editorial experience in the past with a business trade magazine and my Region 18 *Bulletin*. I've always been a writer be it locally, regionally or nationally with my Section Happenings and Milestones columns in the AIS *Bulletin*. I also worked at the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* newspaper. Having just completed co-editing the Median Iris Society's 50th Anniversary Edition of *The Medianite*, I have recent experience encouraging Iris writers to step forward and share their knowledge and opinions with the iris community.

Being on the AIS board of directors and working with AIS Managing Editor Terry Aitken, it is hoped that organizational continuity has been maintained along with a bit of my own influence in the editorial process. I trust you will be pleased with the results. Working to a tight deadline following the AIS Oklahoma City Convention, it was my determination to have the garden write-ups in this July issue as news rather than for them to be delayed to the October issue as old news. My thanks to the many writers and photographers who came through for me. The issue of deadheading convention guest irises was raised in Oklahoma City and there are three articles in this issue addressing the subject from the hybridizer, photographer and philosopher points of view.

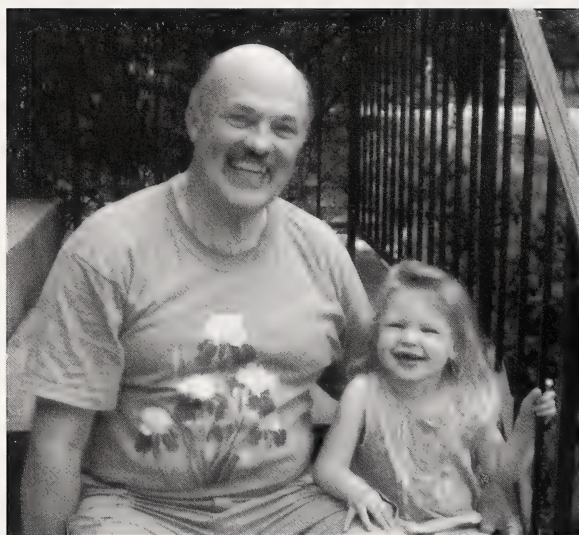
The subject of seedling iris color picture usage in the AIS *Bulletin* has been misinterpreted in past issues so I have been asked by the AIS board to make it perfectly clear that **the AIS policy has not changed** over what it has been for several years. However, in the interest of absolute clarity for all, be they hybridizer, photographer or regular or occasional reader, the AIS board passed the motion as listed below in the boxed quotation.

The next guest editor will be Kelly Norris, Bedford, IA. He and I jointly offered all the Sections feature article space in this and the October issue. *SPCNI: From SIGNA, via 'Canyon Snow'* is the first of these features. October will contain additional features along with the Median Iris Society/Region 21 'Prairie Gold' mini-convention garden write-ups and pictures.

Finally, my thanks to Bruce Filardi for his efforts as AIS *Bulletin* Editor for the past few years. He expressed in these pages that he thought I criticized him too much, but my suggestions were always in the open and intended to be constructive as I supported him in many ways, some that he will never know. Now it is his turn and yours to judge my volunteer efforts to maintain the excellent quality of the AIS *Bulletin*. And remember, it is a good thing to be a “bobble-head” and say “yes” when asked to support your American Iris Society. 🌸

AIS Board of Directors approved motion, May 2007.

Color pictures of irises used in AIS publications shall be registered, introduced Irises, properly published species, historical cultivars, or overall garden shots. Color pictures of seedlings under number or name may be used only in support of specific article content.



Guest Editor Jim Morris
and Granddaughter Grace,
budding irisarian.

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Annual President's Letter

The American Iris Society, Inc.

June 1, 2007

The terms of one-third of the twelve American Iris Society Directors expire annually.

As provided in the AIS Bylaws, each year a five-member Nominating Committee recommends to the AIS Board of Directors a selection of candidates for nomination as directors. From this list the incumbent Board of Directors chooses by written ballot a slate of four candidates to be presented to the membership to fill the vacating positions.

The Nominating Committee consists of five members selected each year by their respective parent bodies to serve for one year: two directors are selected by the Board of Directors, two RVPs are selected by the Board of Counselors, and one section representative is selected by the Section Advisory Board.

As approved by the incumbent directors during the 2007 spring meeting held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in accordance with AIS Bylaws, the following four individuals are the 2007 nominees for regular three-year terms expiring in the fall of 2010:

Paul Gossett (Region 22)

Bob Keup (Region 2)

Jim Morris (Region 18)

Bob Pries (Region 18)

AIS Bylaws provide that additional nominations may be made by any forty members, of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before August 31, 2007.

Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which all nominees are listed will be mailed on or before September 30, 2007, to all AIS members, and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) before October 29, 2007.

If there are no additional nominations to those listed above, issuance of a ballot shall be omitted and the original nominees considered elected.

*Jeanne Clay Plank, President
American Iris Society, Inc.*

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Youth Views

by Cheryl Deaton, California

I have just returned from the National Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and the Median Iris Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska. Both events gave me the wonderful opportunity of meeting new friends, adult and youth, and renewing the friendships I had made previously. I've barely had time to unpack, but I need to share with all of you the news about our youth members.

Clarke Cosgrove Awards

Winner of the 2006 Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement is **Grace Farley**, age 16, from Region 21. Grace was the only AIS youth member to attend the convention in Oklahoma, and I was able to spend time getting to know her. She hybridizes, and this year the first of her seedlings will bloom. I often found her "nose-to-



Cheryl Deaton with 2006 Cosgrove Award winner Grace Farley, and AIS President Jeanne Plank.

nose" with her camera and an iris bloom, taking pictures of the interior parts of the flower for further study. Members of her home club, the Lincoln Iris Society, were enthusiastic about her active participation in all club activities, and her willingness to volunteer for anything and everything that might be needed. She is also very active with her school track team and FFA and on the honor roll. She hopes someday to hybridize an iris that has her school colors of blue, yellow and white, perhaps a broken color iris. Grace received her award at the AIS banquet on Saturday night.

First runner-up was ten-year old **Sarah M. Green**, from Region 21. Sarah is also a member of the Lincoln Iris Society and has been an AIS member since 2005. She enjoys growing irises with her parents, and has won the annual AIS Coloring Contest in her age group two years running. Other activities for Sarah include Girl Scouts and YMCA

sports, and entering iris shows.

Second runner-up was **Geoffrey Hewett** of Region 18. Many of you may remember Geoff as a garden co-host with his aunt and uncle at the St. Louis Convention in 2005, and he was also his region's youth representative at the Portland, Oregon Convention in 2006. He is a member of the Jeffco Iris Society in Missouri.

Ackerman Essay Contest


This year's topic was "What I Like Best About Irises" and the winner in the 13 years and up category is **Kameron Flowers** of Region 7. Kameron lives in Dyersburg, Tennessee. When Kameron's name was announced at the awards banquet in Oklahoma City, cheers erupted from a table full of Region 7 members who know Kameron! They were thrilled! Kameron wrote that, "Everyone can find something that they could love about irises. Opinions aren't always going to be the same, but now you know that I find the smell, the color and the different sizes irresistible."

Winner in the 12 years and under category is none other than **Sarah M. Green** of Lincoln, Nebraska. Sarah likes the "variety in color, shape, types and heights." I was able to present Sarah with both her awards at the Median Iris Convention banquet on Tuesday evening. Both winning essays will be published in the October issue of the *AIS Bulletin*.

Congratulations to all our winners.

Other News

Although they are no longer youth members in AIS, I am proud to share with you some of the accomplishments of our former youth members. The Cosgrove winner for 2002, **Stephanie Strauss** of Midland, Texas in Region 17 has been accepted to Yale University. **Nicole Pedersen** of Region 21 was one of the bus captains for the Median Iris Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska and charmed all of those on her bus. **Kelly Norris** from Bedford, Iowa will be guest editor of the October issue of the *AIS Bulletin*. Kelly is currently the editor of The Dwarf Iris Society *Newsletter*. These three former AIS youth members are the future of the American Iris Society, and I am very proud of their accomplishments.

Don't forget to visit the youth website at www.youth-iris.com. Here's hoping your bloom season was successful. Until we meet again, Happy Irising! 

Questions and Anthems

by Terry Aitken, Washington

Why rebloom?

Some people, like me, are just plain greedy. I want bloom on my plants all thru the growing season. Our best performer, so far, is 'Perpetual Indulgence' (Aitken 05). It is a Standard Dwarf Bearded iris that blooms in late April, then starts up again in early August and continues until freeze up. Amongst the Tall Bearded irises, 'Again And Again' (Innerst 99), blooms in May and reblooms in July. It may continue into August. In "cool climates," Siberian irises can go on blooming for almost three months.

In a competitive sense, it can be called "market share." The largest plant Societies are the American Orchid Society and the Rose Society. Both of these societies champion plants that bloom for most of the growing season – and have substantial membership numbers. The American Iris Society is roughly similar in size to the Hemerocallis Society. Both Societies are working to produce plants with an extended bloom season. I suspect that both organizations will benefit, both in sales and more memberships, when this phenomenon becomes common knowledge. Many mail order catalogs are now featuring collections of reblooming plants.

Is it necessary to kill all bugs?

For people who are shipping internationally, plants are individually inspected by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and certified free of any pests and diseases that the importing country may be concerned about. For the home gardener, it only becomes important when entering flower competitions. A judge will deduct points for insects or diseases present in the display. Some sucking insects may carry viruses from plant to plant so it becomes a gamble with the value of your plants. Most gardeners take exception to receiving bug and disease infested plants. Wouldn't you?

Does ENVOY kill Couch Grass?

Couch grass, also known as scutch or twitch grass, (*elymus repens*), is a very common species of grass in Europe. It has creeping underground stems with small fibrous roots at every joint. If left unchecked it will completely choke a garden bed. Envoy is most effective in early spring when grass is in active growth. The instructions say that you may have to

spray several times and that part seems to be true. Later in the summer when the ground has dried down, and the grass is nearly dormant, Envoy may be much less effective. By using any of the internet search engines you will find under “couch grass” several topics including the Urban Food Garden recommendations for natural control methods such as hand-digging or smothering with black plastic, as well as the Royal Horticultural Society’s recommendation of glyphosate-based weed killers.

In a discussion involving Japanese Irises, it was mentioned that the Japanese bred them for a single flower for cut flower and display purposes whereas American hybridizers were breeding for garden value. This usually involves multiple flower buds on a stem and an extended season. Question? **Are there rules that say which we have to have?** Answer – not at all except in the AIS judging standards. Extra points are awarded for “floriferousness” by extending the bloom season. Even wild Japanese (Ensata) irises may have branches and may not all bloom at the same time. It is just a matter of the Japanese disbudding so that all of the energy goes into a single flower for maximum flower performance. The Chrysanthemum Society in America goes through much the same process (disbudding) for show purposes. American JI gardeners usually breed for the extended season and maximum flowers in the garden.


Questions from a beginning hybridizer:

Should I be concerned about mold on the seeds?

Not at all. The outer casing of the seed may need to deteriorate before germination takes place.

How long does it take iris seeds to germinate?

Approximately three months at refrigerator temperatures. Moving them into a warmer environment after germination will speed up growth. Seedlings in pots are ready for transplant out of doors during bloom season if you want to see flowers the following spring. Later transplant will result in no bloom or very little bloom the next spring. Once germination occurs, seedlings should be kept wet until transplant time. Flowers should be evaluated on two-year old plants. The character of the flower, height of stem and bud count should be substantially better the second bloom season. (The really ugly ones can be dispatched at first bloom.)

Another method is opening green pods and planting the seeds immediately. This will result in some germination within 30 days. Unfortunately, this usually occurs as we are going into winter and small seedlings will not survive unless they are brought into a greenhouse for the winter. 

Milestones

Compiled by Jim Morris

It takes a while for a new column such as this one to prove of interest to the general membership. I still hope that a “bobble-head” will volunteer to head this up. In the meantime, once again I encourage **anyone** who has important news about their affiliate club or club members to contact me by letter (682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021) or by email at morrisje1@aol.com. Copy for this issue will be rather eclectic ranging from 40th, 50th, 75th, 100th and 300th anniversaries to awards and obituaries. Sit back, here we go.

Many of our members who fit the “baby boomer” generation are reaching retirement age and will impact this era just as they have previous ones. It is 40 years since their “Summer of Love” in 1967 with sex, drugs and Rock’N’Roll. Lyndon Johnson was the U.S. president and an actor named Ronald Reagan was elected governor of California. LSD guru Timothy Leary first mentioned, “Turn on, tune in, drop out.” And the Beatles hinted at free love with, “All You Need is Love.” Let’s hope that the former “flower children” will grow more irises.

If you haven’t already purchased a copy of the Median Iris Society’s 50th Anniversary History Edition of *The Medianite*, it is recommended that you do so. Kudos have been rolling in from around the world about this publication. See the MIS advertisement elsewhere in this issue of the *AIS Bulletin*. Congratulations to Allan Ensminger, the patriarch of the Lincoln Iris Society of Nebraska, for receiving the second MIS Bennett Jones Outstanding Median Hybridizer Award. This was presented to him at the Region 21 sponsored MIS Prairie Gold mini-convention May 8, 2007. Details of this mini-convention and Ensminger’s award will be in the October *AIS Bulletin*. Congratulations also to Carolyn Lingenfelter who was presented the Region 21 Distinguished Service Award at this same event. Lingenfelter was Region 21 RVP from 1999-2001.

www.theirisfarm.com

Those of us fortunate to have attended the AIS National Convention 2007 in Oklahoma City are well aware that 2007 was the 100th anniversary of Oklahoma statehood. This convention was designated as an official centennial project by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission. Also the convention sponsor, the Oklahoma Iris Society, celebrated their 75th anniversary this year. Coverage of all the guest gardens, including the Oklahoma State Capitol Garden (and the new dome on the Capitol building) is included in this issue of the *AIS Bulletin*.

This is the 300th anniversary of the birth of the Swedish medical doctor and botanist Carl Linnaeus. Born in the iris month of May (May 23, 1707), Linnaeus is the creator of the Latin binominal nomenclature system still in use 300 years after his birth. From the existing babel of the complicated nomenclatures of the time, he came up with the simple decision to call every living thing by just two Latin names: genus and species. He sorted all plants into 24 classes based on their sexual parts. His *Systema Naturae*, 1758-59 (tenth edition) cataloged about 7,700 plants. Our favorite flower sorts out in the taxonomic hierarchy as follows:

<i>Kingdom</i>	<i>Plantae</i>
<i>Phylum (Division)</i>	<i>Magnoliophyta</i>
<i>Class</i>	<i>Liliopsida</i>
<i>Order</i>	<i>Asparagales</i> (formerly <i>Liliales</i>)*
<i>Family</i>	<i>Iridaceae</i>
<i>Genus</i>	<i>Iris</i>
<i>Species</i>	<i>I. germanica</i> L.


*Source: Missouri Botanical Garden website Angiosperm phylogeny. This change resulted from new DNA and biochemical data.

Carl Linnaeus (Caroli Linnaei in Latin) was born in Stenbrohult, Sweden. His father Nils was an amateur botanist and Lutheran minister. He took the family name from “lind” meaning linden tree. In 1761 Carl Linnaeus became a nobleman as von Linne’. Following his death in 1778, an Englishman named James Edward Smith bought his library, manuscripts and collections. Smith started the Linnean Society of London, a scientific society with the name derived from the noble name von Linne’. The materials are vault-protected and available today for scholarly research. And there is a Swedish Linnaeus Society derived from the linden tree family name. He was buried under the stone floor of the cathedral of Uppsala, a city that has an annual Linnaeus Day each May 23rd.

Region 2 presented the 2006 Irwin A. Conroe Distinguished Service Award to Judith Tucholski in recognition for 16 years of dedicated service to the Region. She served in various region and local

offices, including Region Newsletter editor, Region Exhibitions chairman, and president of the Western New York Iris Society. This award was proposed in 1987 by William Peck to honor Dr. Conroe for his long service to the Empire State Iris Society.

Jack E. Norrick (1921 – 2007) Norrick, 85, of Muncie, Indiana, is known to most irisarians as the hybridizer of ‘**Bumblebee Deelite**’ (86 MTB), winner of the Franklin Cook Cup (88) and the Williamson-White Medal (93). Following WWII service in the U.S. Army, Jack met and married Glenda Brothers in November 1946. Jack worked at Warner Gear/Borg Warner, Muncie for 36 years and retired from there in 1983 as a production supervisor. He pitched for many local baseball teams and helped found the Eaton Baseball Association where he coached several Little League and Pony League teams. Jack was preceded in death by Glenda who lived 1927-1996.

Jeannette Catherine Schreiner (1913 – 2006) Schreiner, 93, of Salem, Oregon. Her death marks the end of an era for the Schreiner family. The wife of Robert Schreiner (1910-2000), Jeannette was a delightful hostess through the years to the waves of irisarians who visited the Schreiner fields, picnic and display areas. The Schreiners dedicated their 82nd edition 2007 Iris Catalog to her loving memory. 

NOBLE STATURE

Hilton ‘06 – TB 39” – EML – Ruffled silvery blue white self. Falls flared, beards yellow with blue tip, good stalks, bud count 7 to 10, fast grower, very fragrant, fertile both ways. (Song of Norway x Silverado) \$25 includes ship/handling.

George Hilton: 146 Julia Avenue, Hamilton, NJ 08610
1-609-599-4262 gahjr46@aol.com

Section Happenings

Jim Morris, Section Liaison Consultant

The AIS Section representatives and Cooperating Society representatives held their annual meeting May 1, 2007 in Oklahoma City. Attendance was excellent and lively discussion was held regarding several mutual topics such as the recent move to E-membership solicitation and the offer by the Guest Editor of the AIS *Bulletin* to provide feature article space in the July and October issues to each group. The first of these articles received is that of the Pacific Coast Irises in this issue, a collaboration of Richard Richards, Terri Hudson and Debby Cole. Others have indicated a feature article will be prepared (one other has already been received).

The genus *Iris* is incredibly diverse. Adequately representing this diversity within the blanket of the American Iris Society presents a difficult challenge which has resulted in the development of the Sections. Few, if any other genus-based plant societies face this challenge. Recognizing that the relationship between the AIS and the Sections is symbiotic, the Sections should explore ways to strengthen their own interests as well as the broader interests of the AIS. It was proposed that membership in one Section be included with AIS membership. Obstacles to this proposal include varying dues structures between Sections. Dennis Hager, SJI president, and Susan Grigg, SSI membership chairman, have agreed to explore and report on the concept of offering Section membership with membership in the AIS.

The Sections elected Barbara Aitken, Reblooming Iris Society president, to be the Section President representative to the AIS Nominating Committee.

Earlier in the year it was announced that the USDA Forest Service would be launching a large series of web pages on its website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers> with a posting under the menu item "Beauty of It All." Lawrence R. Stritch, National Botanist for the Forest Service asked AIS for permission to link to the AIS website and to partner in the conservation of our native irises. John Jones, AIS Electronic Services & Website, responded affirmatively and suggested further links to our Sections. The appropriate Sections and one Cooperating Society also responded affirmatively. Everyone should review this exceptional Forest Service website.

Two of our sections elected new presidents in Oklahoma City. They are Brad Kasperek for The Dwarf Iris Society of America, Inc. and Paul W. Gossett for the Historic Iris Preservation Society, Inc. Congratulations to each.

Keith Smith, Spuria Iris Society president, has reported that the Spuria Popularity Poll results for 2006/2007 are as follows:

First Place..... 'Adriatic Blue' (Niswonger 96)

Second Place.... 'Missouri Iron Ore' (Niswonger 97)

Third Place..... 'Elfin Sunshine' (Jenkins 98).

Would you believe that not one but two “bobble-heads” stepped forward to take over as Newsletter editors for the Aril Society International? They are Anita Moran from Maryland and Anthony Peruzzi from California and their first issue was in March. Welcome.

In *The Reblooming Iris Recorder* Spring 2007 issue, I found the Terry Aitken article on *Iris Culture in Tropical Climates* of interest. Reblooming iris in pots for climates not usually suitable for iris culture such as Hawaii, Tahiti, Brazil, Taiwan and Florida – now there is optimism. Terry reports having actually seen such plants in “The buoyant breezes of Hawaii ... [and with] very healthy, leaf spot free foliage and good growth. The trick, then, is just to get them to bloom again.” Frost is not a problem (!) and a balanced fertilizer like 16-16-16 with trace elements is key for the essentially sterile potting mix. Many of you know that former AIS Library chairman Keith McNames moved to Costa Rica. I happened across a picture on the internet of a beardless iris (species unknown) growing in Costa Rica above 7,000 feet altitude. Go figure.

Future Section Conventions

Continuing my earlier Section Happenings' theme that repetition is good, I will end this column with the projected conventions of our sections and cooperating societies.

Aril Society International – Albuquerque Aril & Iris Society, “Aril and Median Trek”, April 27-April 30, 2008, Albuquerque, NM

Society for Japanese Irises, June 2008, Kalamazoo, MI

Siberian/Species, June 2009, Twin Cities Area, MN

Historic Iris Preservation Society “HIPS Happening”, May 17, 2009, Overland Park, KS (immediately following the AIS National Convention there)

Spuria Iris Society, June 2010, Portland, OR 



Above:
'Adriatic Blue' (Niswonger '96) and
Dave Niswonger

Left: 'Adriatic Blue' (Niswonger '96)

(See page 20,
Section Happenings column)

Photos this page: Morris

AIS Calendar:

2008: April 14-19

Austin, TX

Chairs: Jim Landers

710 North 11th

Temple, TX 76501-3016

(254) 773-5017

jimlanders43@hotmail.com

and: Pat Byrne

(281) 391-6190

patb1@consolidated.net

Headquarters:

Omni Austin Hotel at

Southpark

4140 Governor's Row

Austin, TX 78744

(512) 383-2621

2009: May 11-16

Kansas City, MO

Chair: Debora Hughes

3395 Utah Road

Wellsville, KS 66092

(785) 883-4737

dhughes936@myvine.com

Headquarters:

Doubletree Hotel Overland Park

10100 College Boulevard

Overland Park, KS 66210

(913) 451-6100

2010: May/June

Madison, WI

Chairman: John Baker

4601 CTH TT

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

(608) 825-7423

FALL BOARD MEETINGS

2007: Nov 2-4

Raleigh-Durham, NC

Chair: Susan Grigg

105 Trotters Ridge Road

Raleigh, NC 27614

(919) 870-8345

irismom@nc.rr.com

Headquarters:

Wyndham Raleigh Durham

Research Triangle Park

4620 S. Miami Blvd.

Durham, NC 27703

(919) 941-6066

2008: Oct 31 - Nov 2

Las Vegas, NV

Chair: Mary lee Fortner

3337 Ascona Street

Las Vegas, NV 89129

(702) 228-0827

mybasket@cox.net

2009: Nov 6 - 8


Tulsa, OK

Chair: Paul W. Gossett

129 East 33rd Place

Tulsa, OK 74105-2542

(918) 742-1204

pwgossett@juno.com 

Request for Guest SPURIA Irises

Spuria Iris Convention, Portland, Oregon 2010


The Greater Portland Iris Society will be host for a Spuria Iris Convention in June of 2010. Hybridizers are invited to send rhizomes of recent Spuria introductions and seedlings under consideration for introduction.

Please observe the following guidelines for submission of guest iris:

1. There will be four gardens on display for this convention so please do not send more than four (4) rhizomes of any one variety.
2. Plants will be accepted from July 15th to September 30th, although mid August is preferred.
3. Ship Plants to:
John Ludi, Guest Iris Chairman
35071 S.E. Hwy. 211
Boring, OR 97009-9584
4. The name of the variety or the seedling number should be clearly marked on each plant.
5. In addition please send the following information on a separate packing list accompanying the plants:
 - A. Hybridizer's name, street address, phone # and E-Mail if possible
 - B. Plant name or seedling number of each variety
 - C. Height, color, season of bloom

If a guest seedling is later named, it is the responsibility of the Hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than January 31st, 2010.

Before the convention, hybridizers will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of plants and for any donations for auction to help raise money for the society. Failure to reply in a timely manner will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings and to distribute or put into auction named varieties.

The convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook *revised 2007*. 

Request for Guest Beardless Irises

AIS Convention, Madison, WI 2010

The Madison Area Iris Society will host the American Iris Society Convention in May/June 2010. Hybridizers of beardless varieties are invited to send rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when sending guest irises as only officially submitted guest irises will appear in the convention booklet.

Up to three rhizomes of each variety will be accepted from August 15 through September 15, 2007. Ship plants to:

Phillip Rowin

4601 CTH TT


Sun Prairie, WI 53590

The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a separate packing list:

- Hybridizer's name and address
- Name or seedling number of the variety
- Type of iris (Sib, Spu, etc.)
- Height, color, distinguishing features
- Bloom season (EML)
- Year of introduction (if applicable)

If a guest seedling is later named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman by December 1, 2009.

A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instruction regarding the disposition of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2010 will be interpreted as permission to destroy all seedlings, and distribute named varieties, one to garden owners and the rest to the Madison Area Iris Society for distribution to Region 8 clubs. Returns will be sent freight paid, except for foreign addresses.

The Convention Committee and the owners of tour gardens will strictly adhere to the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook. 

Lone Star State in 2008

by Nelda Moore, Publicity, Iris Society of Austin

If you have never visited Texas, you must come to the wide open spaces of varied terrain. You will have a golden opportunity to see it all, April 14-19, 2008. Austin beckons you to visit its unique historical places, to hear its many musical sounds, and to study the beauty and growth of different irises in the city and the surrounding areas.

The 2008 A.I.S. National Iris Convention will have seven different guest gardens on tour, and you will receive a warm welcome as you experience Texas hospitality.

Nestled behind the Natural Gardener off Old Bee Cave Road in West Austin a Master Garden of guest irises bloomed brightly in April near the tepee. This very busy nursery had customers visiting its gift shop as well as its gardens, where they photographed the slightly curving rows of bearded irises that waved in the breeze, beckoning the visitors to the back bed holding the Louisianas, spurias, and Siberians.


Also in western Travis County off Barton Creek Boulevard behind a gated area lies the magnificent landscaped gardens belonging to Roger and Marney Abel. Over 300 guest irises are planted inside the iron fence behind the swimming pool accented by a sculpture of dolphins at play. Each level contains irises and companion annuals--a feast for the gardener's eyes.

From the Omni Southpark Headquarters the busses will travel to La Grange, where the still waters of a lake form on the horizon over several raised iris beds in varied sizes held by glistening limestone rocks. A peaceful setting it is in a spacious garden!

Link Road near New Braunfels features the beautiful garden belonging to Lee and Sandy Schroeder, who also help maintain the guest iris garden by the San Marcos Tourist Center.

Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District in Round Rock has a water feature created by Horticulturist Rachel Hagan, who has cared for the guest iris garden.

A smaller garden of iris appears among the array of flowers that bloom around the Bannockburn Baptist Church.

Two additional tours will be offered at a nominal cost on Tuesday and Wednesday, giving you an opportunity to see Austin and Fredericksburg. Finally, do not forget the boutique and the raffle, which always creates excitement. The Lone Star State beckons you. You all come. 

AIS National Convention Awards, 2007

Compiled by Ron Mullin, Oklahoma

President's Cup (*Best Iris from a Region 22 Hybridizer*)

'Barbara Jean' (Mullin 05, TB).....	115 votes
'Twilight Symphony' (Mullin 03, TB).....	34
'Performer' (Fisher 03, MTB).....	23
'Iron Butterfly' (P. Dyer 01, TB).....	14
'Hanna's Folly' (Grumbine 05, TB)	11

Franklin Cook Cup (*Best Iris from a Hybridizer Not in Region 22*)

'Florentine Silk' (Keppel 05, TB).....	39 votes
'Royal Sterling' (Keppel 05, TB).....	32
'Ritzy' (Hager/Cooley's 04, TB)	19
'Oreo' (Keppel 04, TB)	11
'Kona Waves' (Annand 05, TB).....	8

Ben R. Hager Cup (*Best Median Iris – First Year of Award*)

'Dividing Line' (Bunnell 05, MTB)	98 votes
'Petit Louvois' (Mahan 06, MTB)	50
'Plum Quirky' (Probst 05, MTB)	17
'Madam President' (Thurman 01, MTB).....	11
'Anaconda Love' (B. Kasperek 99, BB).....	8

Top Fifteen Favorite Guest Irises

1. 'Florentine Silk' (Keppel 05, TB)	81 votes
2. 'Dividing Line' (Bunnell 05, MTB)	77
'Ritzy' (Hager/Cooley's 04, TB)	77
4. 'Royal Sterling' (Keppel 05, TB)	62
5. 'Petit Louvois' (Mahan 06, MTB).....	54
6. 'Barbara Jean' (Mullin 05, TB)	48
7. 'Oreo' (Keppel 04, TB)	47
8. 'Opal Withers' (Van Hook 05, TB)	38
9. 'Deliciously Different' (Aitken 04, TB).....	37
'Plum Quirky' (Probst 05, MTB).....	37
11. 'Kona Waves' (Annand 05, TB).....	36
12. 'Chinook Winds' (T. Johnson 03, TB)	35
'Naughty Nights' (Keppel 06, TB)	35
14. 'Looky Lou' (Ernst 05, TB).....	34
15. 'Raging Tide' (Keppel 07, TB)	33


Bulling Garden

by Ken Roberts, Pennsylvania

To the casual observer driving by the 160-acre Scott and April Bulling farmstead in Mulhall, OK, it looks like a nicely landscaped parcel with cattle and horses grazing in the pasture and typical farm fields. But a closer look reveals many nicely manicured mini-gardens with irises and perennials scattered among the trees and dotting the front yard.

If you weren't there, you missed something unusual for wind-swept Oklahoma – an honest to goodness grape vineyard. The Bullings have five varieties of grapes actively growing and producing on over 1,000 vines. There were also dozens of irises in bloom in the back of the house. In addition to the numerous convention guests there were many other newer varieties on display. We arrived just past the peak bloom, but there was still plenty to see. Irises that caught my eye included **'Kylie Lynn'** (Grumbine 01); **'Crystal Gazer'** (Keppel 02), ruffled medium violet over silvery lilac; **'Paris Fashion'** (Keppel 03), heavily ruffled pinkish lilac; **'Brussels'** (T. Johnson 04) a well-branched blue over white dark top with six stalks and fourteen increase; **'Prague'** (T. Johnson 05), rich peach-tan over burgundy-black with four stalks and eight increase; **'Frosted Fantasy'** (Cadd 01), silvery white self; **'Sky Spirit'** (Schreiner 04); **'Purple Serenade'** (Schreiner 05); **'Early Girl'** (Schreiner 06), laced medium yellow with a white spot below the beards; and **'On the Town'** (S. Markham 07).

Through my eyes the stars of the garden were the TBs **'Klondike Melt'** (F. W. McVicker 07) and **'Musician'** (Keppel 04), with **'Plum Quirky'** (Probst 05, MTB), a runner-up for the first-ever median Ben R. Hager Cup, at the top of the list.

We enjoyed the wide open space of the Bulling farmstead with its beautiful view of the country. Our thanks to the Northern Oklahoma Iris Society for providing garden refreshments. 

The Hampton Garden

by Harold Griffie, Pennsylvania

The Hampton Garden is located in eastern Oklahoma City on a two-acre hilltop lot covered with native blackjack and post oak. The home and garden are situated on a well-landscaped lot. About half the lot flourishes in a semi-wild condition and a fence surrounds the lot to keep out the deer. Plantings of lilies, hostas, daylilies, hydrangeas, roses, rhododendrons, azaleas, dogwoods and lots of perennials are planted around the property. With the time allotted for this garden, I was unable to look at the other plantings and headed straight for the guest beds. The guests were planted in two beds, one on a bank on the sunny south side of the house and the other in a clearing amidst the native trees. The planting near the house was full of bloom and this was my first stop.

As I worked my way along the bed, I was attracted to a beautiful clump of Rick Ernst's 2005 introduction, **'Shades Of Pale'**. This iris in subtle shades of silvery blue-white was heavily ruffled with the flowers displayed on well-branched stalks. This planting sported 7-9 buds. A bit further down the row was a well-grown clump of Joe Ghio's 2006 introduction, **'Vigilant'**. This neglecta is from the **'Romantic Evening'** line with standards of blue-lavender shading to buff color at the base of the petals. Falls are a black-purple. The flower is a nicely ruffled round form on show stalks and displayed 7-9 buds. **'Florentine Silk'**, a 2005 introduction by Keith Keppel, was next to catch my eye. It must have caught the eye of many more convention attendees because it was voted the Franklin Cook Memorial Cup. Six stalks graced a well-grown clump. Peach-pink standards complemented the wide, ruffled lavender falls which also have a rose colored rim. This iris was putting on a show in every garden it was in. **'Raging Tide'**, a 2007 Keppel introduction was also putting on a fine display here. Medium blue standards fading to a lighter blue at the edges sit atop similarly colored falls on this large flower.

'Joyfulness' (Willott 06) displayed very attractive flowers even though it was crowded into a corner of the bed. It was growing nicely in several other gardens and was another addition to my "want" list. **'Pixel Hue'** (Burseen 03) is a hard to describe color on the gray green side and was definitely different, as we have come to expect from Tom. I'm going to add it to my garden collection. Another TB of interest was **'Dallas**

Skylines, a 2001 introduction by Linda Fan, a red-violet plicata with a white ground. Stalks had 7-9 buds. **'Sweet Emotions'** (Christopherson 03) is a striking salmon pink with orange beards ending in pink horns on ruffled with slightly rounded form. Nicely branched stalks with 9-13 buds gave an outstanding display. Dr. Don Spoon's **'National Treasure'** (07) is a very ruffled pale blue flower with a violet flush on the standards and falls and is completed with a blue tipped white beard. Very nice. Other TBs of interest were **'Opal Withers'** (Van Hook 05) and **'Fabulous One'** (R. Nicodemus 06). Two yellow Louisianas, **'Enviably'** and **'June's Pick'**, both introduced by M.D. Faith in 2002 showed promise of good bloom but were not open far enough to fully evaluate them. Both were growing well, but struggling a bit with the shade over the woods bed.

If I hurried a bit I just had time for some coffee and a cookie or two before boarding the bus for the trip to the next garden. Between me and the refreshments laid out on the rear patio was a wooded bed interplanted with azaleas, hostas, clematis, columbine and other perennials and nestled in among these plants was a beautiful plant of *I. tectorum* **'Alba'** with several stalks on display that demanded I stop and take its picture. Fortunately I knew that there would be cookies at the next garden. ☺



Karen and HL Hampton in their garden at the OKC Convention.

Mike and Tona McVicker Garden

by Lynn Williams, California

Upon arrival at the Piedmont, OK garden of Mike and Tona McVicker, we walked down a gently sloping lawn, past a red barn, to the back of the house. The back yard had several fruit trees scattered around and the raised beds were edged with peeled pine logs, giving a very tidy yet restful ambiance. The first raised bed that I came upon had zinnias planted around an iris water fountain that was happily burbling away. The next beds were planted with the guest irises and furthest back was a horseshoe shaped mound covered in rock with a pond in the center. At the open end of the horseshoe was a planting of several Louisiana irises. Unfortunately, it was too early for the Louisiana irises to be in bloom. The raised bed closest to the horseshoe pond had a birdbath in the center of a hexagon shaped bed and was planted with the McVicker's own irises.

I then wandered over to the guest beds and was very impressed with '**Missus Bee**' a 2003 MTB by Charles Bunnell. It had a very pleasing overall form, light purple standards and darker purple falls rimmed in light purple. '**Missus Bee**' had five bloom stalks, 15 increases, and an average of nine buds on three branches, an excellent addition to anyone's garden. Of the IBs in bloom, I found '**Harmonium**' (M. Smith 02) as the best performer with seven stalks and 15 increases; an average of seven buds on two branches. This ruffled bright yellow iris with lemon yellow shoulders and saffron yellow beards is a very cheerful iris. Of the BBs in bloom, I really liked '**Cut Above**' (Aitken 05). It has bronze standards; lightly ruffled and flaring white falls rimmed in mustard yellow; orange beards. It had four stalks in bloom with eleven increases and averaged six buds on two branches.

Several TBs caught my eye and the first was '**By Design**' (Kerr 05) with blue white standards infused darker; blue-black falls with narrow lighter edge and strong white ray pattern beside the tangerine red beards. It had great branching; three stalks blooming with nine increases; an average of ten buds on two branches and a spur, an excellent child of '**Romantic Evening**'. Another iris by Fred Kerr that got my attention was '**New Perspective**' (04), a flat TB with six medium

blue violet petals; and yellow beards. It is very large with overlapping falls that are ruffled and has no style arms. It had three stalks in bloom with eight increases and averaged three open flowers on each stalk with an average of 7-8 buds on two branches and a spur. **'Solar Fire'** (Tasco 03, TB-SA) is an excellent space-ager. It has golden bronze standards that flush to a darker edge and golden orange midribs; oxblood red falls with yellow rays around gold beards and oxblood red flounces or hairy horns. It had a great ruffled form and three stalks were in bloom with eight increases. **'Vatican Flag'** (Willott 05) reminded me of an updated, softer colored version of **'Joyce Terry'**. **'Vatican Flag'** was a very ruffled soft white iris with pale yellow rims on the standards and midribs; darker yellow rims on the falls; and yellow beards. It averaged ten buds on three branches and two spurs.

Another impressive TB was **'Honeycomb'** (Lauer 06). This ruffled and laced iris had light yellow standards with a white wire rim and midribs blushed peach with yellow veins; the style arms were light peachy yellow; the falls honey yellow with a white center and darker honey hafts; and beards red tipped yellow. It had five stalks blooming and thirteen increases with an average of eight buds on two branches and a spur. Another iris by Larry Lauer that performed great was **'Mango Passion'** (05) with cadmium orange standards and tangerine orange style arms; tangerine orange falls that were lighter in the center around Saturn red beards. It was ruffled and had a pronounced sweet fragrance with an average of seven buds and great increase. It had excellent performance in several of the guest gardens. **'Midnight Treat'** (Schreiner 06) was a very large bitoned purple with wide gentle ruffles on the falls with three bloom stalks and nine increases.

There was a TB seedling that I'd like to mention, **JEDA2-6A2** by L. and K. Jedlicka, which was an excellent ruffled pink with great substance, form, and increase. It had an average of eight buds.

There just wasn't as much time to spend at the McVicker's garden as I would have liked, however it was very fortuitous that the Bus Captain blew her whistle when she did, because it just started raining as we boarded the bus for the next garden. Thank you, Mike and Tona for graciously opening your delightful garden to us. 🌸



Youth Views

See article pg 13

Above left: Hope Winzer Best Youth Artistic at the Wichita, KS 2007 Show

Above right: Ah-h Youth! First Show for the newest Grzeskowiak, Washington, MO

Below: Youth Design Workshop Washington Iris Club.



Photo: Aitken



Photo: Roberts



Photo: Roberts



Photo: Stanton

Bulling Garden

Previous page:

Top: 'Prague' (T. Johnson '05) TB

Bottom: KlondikeMelt (F. McVicker '07) TB

This Page:

Top: Musician (Keppel '04) TB

Bottom: Bulling Garden



Hampton Garden



Photo: Morris



: 'It's A Pleasure' (Black '05) TB

nt: 'Raging Tide' (Keppel '07) TB

ow left: I tectorum 'Alba'

ow: Hampton Garden bed

Photo: Aitken



Photo: Aitken



McVicker Garden

Left: 'Bach Fugue' (Baumunk '05) MTB

Bottom: A display bed at McVicker Garden

Photo: Aitken





Left: 'Miami Beach' (Keppel '05) TB

Below: 'Vatican Flag' (Willott '05) TB

Bottom: 'Afternoon in Rio'
(Schreiner '05) TB

Photo: Copeland





Photo: L. Baumunk

Oklahoma State Capitol Garden

Top: Annand 89-7C, TB
Right: Jim and Jean Morris
Below: Capitol planting bed



Photo: L. Baumunk

Left: 'Noble Stature' (Hilton '06) TB

Below: 'County Cork' (Schreiner '07) TB



Photo: Price



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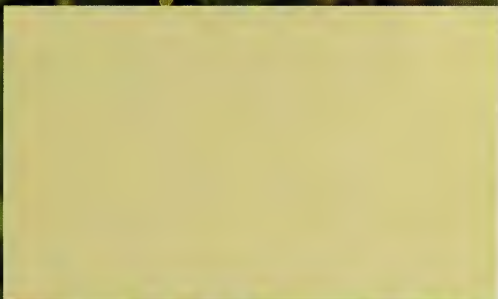


Photo: Ma



Above: 'Rodeo Girl' (Schreiner '05) TB

Right: 'Naughty Nights' (Keppel '06) TB

PRESENTING FOR 2007

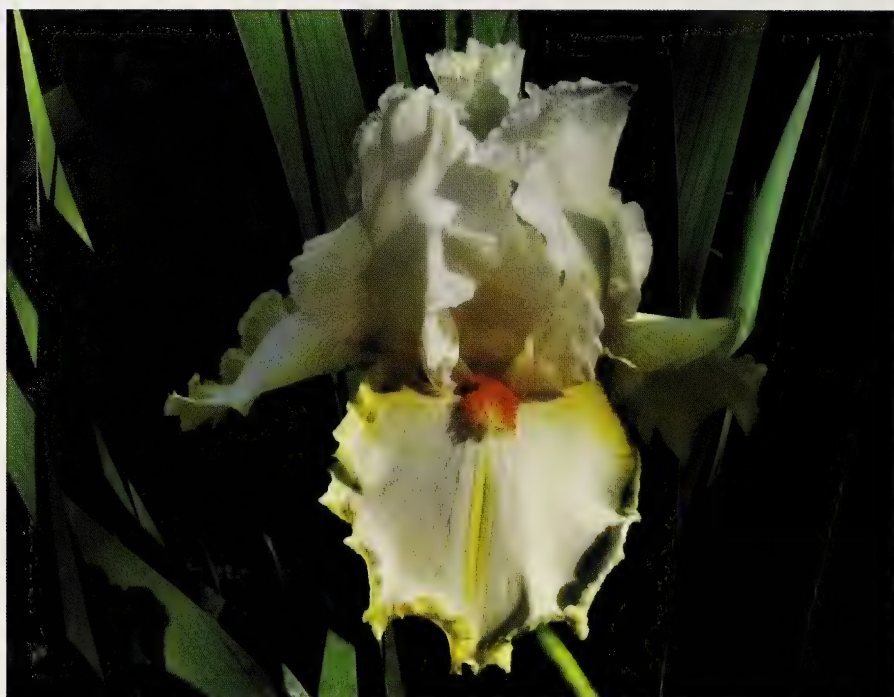


Photo by D. Galvin

CAROLE GALVIN (by A. Feuerstein) (Nordica x White Heat)

A crisp, playful, border bearded for the early season. White standards and falls with yellow highlights on the shoulders and midrib area. 25-27 inches. **Special Price \$10** each, or **3 for \$20**, postage included. Order directly from this ad.

Stockton Iris Gardens
P.O. Box 55195
Stockton, CA 95205



Photo: Price

Left: 'Oklahoma Centennial'
(Black '07)

Below: Jody Nolin

Oklahoma State University Master Garden

oto: Copeland



Photo: Morris



Photo: Morris



Above: 'Bamboo Shadows'
(Keppel '06)

Right: 'Mango Madness'
(Sturm '06) TB

Below: 'Glory Of Dawn'
(Greenfield '07) TB

Photo: Copeland





Photo: Copeland



Photo: Morris

Oklahoma State University Master Garden (cont.)

Top: 'Okapi Poppy' (Kasperek '04) TB

Middle Right: 'Velvet Skirts'
(Willot '06) MTB

Right: Jill Copeland



Photo: Copeland



Left: 'Dutchman's Dream'
(Van Liere '05) TB

Below: Petal Pushers Garden

Petal Pushers Garden





Above: 'Paul Black'
(T. Johnson '03) TB

Right: 'Chinook Winds'
(T. Johnson '03) TB

Photo: Aitken



Photo: Aitken



Photo: Morris

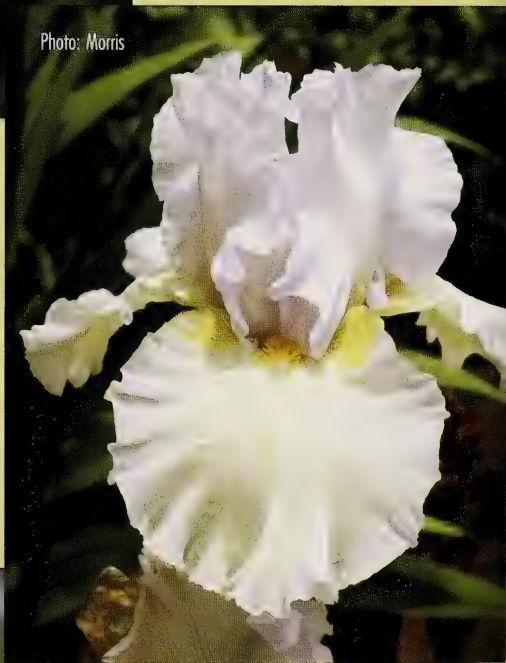


Photo: Morris

Left Page:

Top: 'Love Power' (Aitken '06) BB

Middle: 'Crystal Wings' (Willot '06) TB

Bottom: 'Prime Power' (Tasco '06) TB

This Page:

Right: I fulva

Below left: 'Redrock Princess'
(Witt '06) MTB

Below right: 'Passion Play'
(Lauer '05) TB



Stahl Garden





Photo: Chiron

This Page:

Left: 'Kathy Chilton'
(Kerr '06') TB

Below: 'Spring Kiss'
(Black '00) TB

Right Page:

Top: 'Power Point'
(T. Johnson '05) TB SA

Middle: 'Sun Power'
(T. Johnson '04) TB

Bottom: 'Tropical Delight'
(M. Sutton '02) TB SA

Stout Garden



Photo: Stout

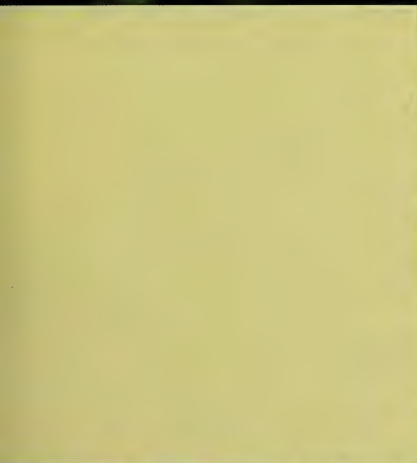
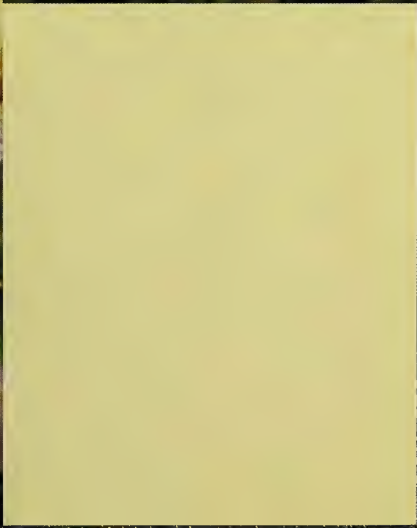


Photo: Chilton



Photo: Chilton







Garden Art at Stout Garden

(All photos Morris, except as noted)





This page, clockwise from top left:

'Start Your Day' (Kerr '04) TB

'Solomon's Treasure' (Van Liere '06) TB

'Waimea Canyon Sunrise' (L. Johnson '05) TB

'Applause Line' (Ghio '05) TB

'Blinding Light' (Ernst '05) TB

(All photos this page: Blecher)



Will Rogers Garden

Top left: 'Winterfest' (Schreiner '05) TB

Top right: 'Bewitchment' (Ghio '04) TB

Below: Will Rogers Garden entrance







AIS Medal Winners

Top Row (L-R)

Allan Ensminger Receives Bennett
Jones Median Hybridizer Award

Fred Kerr with the Wister Medal

Ron Mullin accepting President's Cup from Jeanne Plank

Jim Copeland receives DSM



Middle Row (L-R)

Everette Lineberger, Founders of Signa Medal winner

Lowell Baumunk, Sass Medal winner

Hal Stahly awarded Hybridizer's Medal

Region 6 RVP Jody Nolin accepting the new
Ben R. Hager Cup for Chuck Bunnell



Bottom Row (L-R)

Dave Niswonger, Nies Medal winner

Lorena Reid, Payne Medal winner

Brad Kasperek, Caparne-Welch Medal and
Knowlton Medal winner

Keith Keppel, Cook Cup and Dykes Medal winner

(All photos Morris)



Photo: Aitken

Australian Dykes Medal Winner

'Daintree' (J.C. Taylor '99/'00) LA

(See pages 94-96 for International Awards stories)



Photo: Morris

International Award Winners

Above: Premio Firenze winner, 'Aurelie' (R. Cayeux '03) TB

Winners From Franciris:

Below left: Third prize, 'Italian Ice' (Cadd '01) TB

Below right: Best Blue Bitone, 'Airforce One' (G. Sutton '02) TB-SA



Photo: Auk



Photo: Morris



Photo: Morris

President's Cup Runners up

Above: 'Twilight Symphony' (Mullin '03) TB

Below: 'Performer' (Fisher '03) MTB



Photo: Morris

Photo: Morris



Cook Cup Runners up

Above: 'Royal Sterling' (Keppel '05) TB

Below: 'Ritzy' (Hager/Cooley's '04) TB

Photo: Price





Photo: Airken

Hager Cup Runners up

Above: 'Petit Louvois' (Mahan '06) MTB

Right: 'Plum Quirky' (Probst '05) MTB



Photo



Photo: Aitken

“Eyeshadow Irises”

As hybridized by Hiroshi Shimizu in Japan

See article, page 92



Photo: Aitken



Above: 'Canyon Snow'

See article "SPCNI: From SIGNA,
via 'Canyon Snow'" pg. 89

Right: Iris Quilt Winner Elodia Miller of
Memphis, TN.

Below: Nancy Pocklington and new friend,
Emma at the Stout Garden.

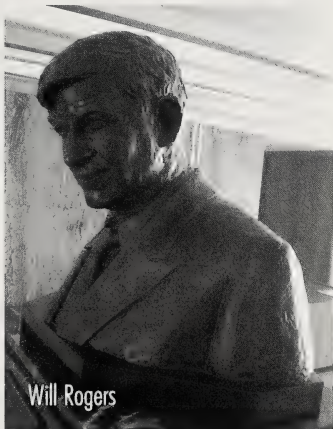


Photo: Chilton

Oklahoma State Capitol Garden

by Nancy Price, Oregon

After circling the Oklahoma State Capitol grounds, the bus dropped us off on the northern side of the Capitol Building. The garden was planted about 300 feet from the roadway, and yet another 500 feet farther stood the Oklahoma Capitol building itself. In our convention booklet, Mayor Mick Cornett congratulated the American Iris Society and the Oklahoma Iris Society of Oklahoma City for having the National Convention event designated as an official centennial project by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission. The Oklahoma Iris Society of Oklahoma City was celebrating its 75th anniversary and the State of Oklahoma was celebrating its 100th anniversary.



Part of the celebration included a special program at the opening banquet. Pictures of the capitol's new dome were included in the program, along with the announcement that the iris '**Oklahoma Centennial**' (Black 07) was named for the anniversary celebration. Oklahoma's State Capitol is more than the seat of state government. This grand building serves as an apt symbol for a state and a people whose dreams are outdistanced only by their determination to reach those dreams.

Workers spent four years creating the Capitol building, a magnificent example of neoclassical architecture, from its elegant Corinthian columns to the expanse of its outside steps. Basic construction was completed by 1917, but by then money had dried up for a planned dome. It would be another eighty-five years before the Capitol would be graced by a dome. A few years ago, a fundraising effort was held to build the long-awaited capitol dome. The completion of work was done with plenty of time to spare for the 2007 celebrations. Now, the towering dome rises above everything in the capitol complex. And sitting atop the dome is the Guardian, a bronze sculpture of a Native American Indian, overlooking and guarding the iris planting on

the ground below. Appropriately it was the creation of Enock Kelly Haney, a native American and former state senator. The seventeen-foot sculpture weighs more than 5,000 pounds.

After watching the opening banquet program and seeing the pictures of the newly constructed dome, I wanted to see it more than the irises. Forgoing picture and note taking, Dave Silverberg and I walked the extra feet and climbed the steps to the front of the building. The capitol's imposing exterior is built of Indiana limestone with a base of pink granite quarried from the southern Oklahoma town of Troy.

Inside, the capitol's floors are made of Alabama marble; Vermont marble adorns the wall bases and stairways. The dome was roped, yet I could see and photograph the interior of the dome above Mike Larsen's *Flight of Spirit* and two historic murals by Charles Banks Wilson. It was exquisite indeed.

Leaving the capitol building, I decided to check out the oil rig to the northwest. Oil was an important part of the early development of the state of Oklahoma, and the oil industry remains a key ingredient in today's economy. The oil wells on the capitol complex are live and working.

Whoops, before the whistle blew, I needed to check out the iris garden too! Jeannette Limke was responsible for designing the bed layout and her husband Harley did the bulk of the iris planting. The primary care of the plants was taken over by the Stouts, Jennifer and Hugh, and the Lloyds, Barbara and Arnold. They did a great job. The foliage and bloom were wonderful. There were several iris names that were fitting for an anniversary celebration in this cowboy capitol such as '**Team Spirit**' (Keppel 05), '**Designer's Art**' (Kerr 05), '**Beneath My Wings**' (Meininger 05), '**Dreaming Rainbows**' (Spoon 07), '**Noble Stature**' (Hilton 06), '**Rodeo Girl**' (Schreiner's 05) and '**Comanche Winter**' (Hedgecock 03). '**Rodeo Girl**' had red standards, bright yellow ground falls with red plicata marking, and gold beards; '**Noble Stature**' was a very pale silvery blue-white self; and, '**Comanche Winter**' was another lovely white self with yellow beards.

There was another white self '**Sharper Image**' (Black 05) with white tipped light yellow-gold beards, and short light lavender horns. It was nice to see '**Slovak Prince**' (Mego 03) again and blooming well in this garden. '**World Premiere**' (Schreiner 98) was another nice near amoena iris with dark blue-violet falls.

'**Santa Was Here**' (Niswonger 05) was a nice surprise to see on tour this year. It is a child of '**Be A Dream**' and '**Santa**' and had buffy pink thumbprint markings on the hafts. A rebloomer, '**Serenity Returns**' (Wilkerson 05) also caught my eye with its white standards and light blue falls. The rebloomer '**Clarence**' is the pollen parent.

A couple of yellow iris may become favorites. One is '**Secret Rites**'

(Keppel 05) with chartreuse yellow standards, citron yellow and pyrethrum yellow falls, and a golden glow to deep chrome yellow beards. The other iris '**Ritz**' (Hager by Cooley's Gardens 04) was a brilliant yellow self. It was a stand out performer in the convention gardens this year.

There were two darker blue-violets that were blooming well in the capitol gardens. One was '**Hollywood Nights**' (Duncan 01) described as intense deep purple-black standards and falls with a darker sheen and ruffles. '**Dusky Challenger**' was the pod parent. The other iris I enjoyed was '**Midnight Vigil**' (Stahley 05) that is described with deepest violet standards, black falls and black beards. Both are very lovely irises.

'**Crocodile Rock**' (B. Nichols 06) is listed with peach ground standards and falls, violet plicata markings; beards tangerine violet cream with flounces and sometimes horns. It was a nice contrast in the iris beds to accompany the blue, purples and white colors. Another iris to help balance the "rainbow" colors in the beds that I enjoyed was '**Naughty Nights**' (Keppel 06). It is a mix of roman purple and greyed rose standards, blackish port falls, and bright cadmium orange beards.

But probably the star of this garden with a constant crowd around it was Bob Annand's seedling **89-7C**, a lavender-blue amoena with multiple blooms open on several bloom stalks, handling the strong wind quite well.

Conventioneers were blessed with little to no rain, one windy afternoon and no tornados this year. The temperature was in the 80s with humidity during the afternoons. It was great to relax in the shade and visit with new and old friends. Water, juices and sweet snacks were provided. Elsie Harrow was in charge of hospitality at this garden. Elsie helped with several tasks during the convention happening in the capitol garden and in other gardens as well.

Thank you Oklahoma Iris Society for a job well done. Happy Anniversary to you and to your home state of Oklahoma, USA. 🌸



The Capitol Crew at the Oklahoma State Capitol Garden (L-R, Hugh Stout, Harley Limke, Barbara Lloyd, Elsie Hanow, and Arnold Lloyd). Not pictured, Jennifer Stout and Jeanette Limke.

The Oklahoma State University Garden Master Planting

by Jill Bonino, California

We should all be very grateful to Greg Cary's mother. He listened to her advice and agreed to plant and maintain the convention's Master Planting at the OSU Garden. Cary is a Master Gardener who has been a member of the Oklahoma Iris Society for five years. While touring the garden over the three visits we had during the Convention, he gave me the background of how the garden was created and some interesting side stories on what happened after the plants were in the ground.

The area for the garden was provided by the Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City campus. It is located near a golf course and woodland area of the campus and was open to the public during and after planting. Bill McVicker, OKC Convention Chairman, and Hugh Stout, Garden Chairman, created the design for the OSU garden. The plants spell out the letters "OSU".

It took six weeks to get the garden ready for planting. The area to be planted had to be leveled and drainage areas set up. OSU provided the soil from the specs provided by Cary. The irises were planted in raised beds and then twelve inches of mulch, seven tons worth, were used to create the walkways around the design. Before planting, white tags spaced 24 inches apart were used to mark where each plant was to go. Cary mixed all of the guest plants together in a box and planted the rhizomes randomly. No one hybridizer's entire collection of plants was in any one area that could be damaged by a location-specific problem.

The 1,001 guest irises were planted by Cary during September and October 2005. No fertilizer was used at all the first year in order to give the plants time to settle in and to help prevent rot. Then in October 2006, a fertilizer mixture of 6-10-10 was applied to give the plants a boost into their second year of bloom. Since Oklahoma City went over eight months without rain in 2006, Cary watered the garden by hand with a yard sprinkler every three weeks. A late freeze in April 2007, just before the convention, left some of the plants with leaf damage but didn't appear to harm bloom.

The first day's visit to the garden on May 3, 2007 was glorious.

There is nothing like seeing iris blooming in virgin soil. The plants overall were large for iris that had only been in the ground 19 months, and the flowers were of good size. The pathways were wide enough to make it easy to get around even with several bus loads of people in the garden at the same time. Bloom was at peak or a smidgen past, and it looked like only a few plants had finished blooming. You had to look hard to find a weed among the massive planting. What a tremendous amount of work. I couldn't get around all of the garden the first day.

One hundred and ten hybridizers from 19 different AIS regions plus England, Australia, and Slovakia sent guest plants for this convention. Iris cultivars included TBs, all classes of Median irises, MDBs, Arilbreds, Spurias, Species, Species X, and Siberians.

Now comes the hard part; where to start to describe the outstanding irises that stood out across this large field of bloom.

Tall bearded iris obviously took center stage over the garden, but there were some nice surprises in the other iris classes. **'Darktop Strutter'** (Aitken 06) was very well grown and it was one of the BBs growing in class (some were not). It showed good flower substance, and multiple stalks were blooming without flower bunching. **'Anaconda Love'** (Kasperek 99, BB) showed off many erect stalks with stunning pink and beet-root purple flowers streaked silver on the falls. Kasperek's **'Z Z Zanzibar'** SPEC (variegata) 2005 displayed a nice perky clump with white standards and blue violet veining over white on the falls. **'Petit Louvois'** (Mahan 06) was an MTB that just loved the Oklahoma soil. A large clump that showed at least 50 stalks (I counted them) defined what a perfect clump at peak bloom can look like.

In the TBs, Paul Black's **'Oklahoma Centennial'** (07) was just starting to bloom on the first day of the convention. This was the namesake introduction for this convention, and a good size two-year clump had six stalks within days of opening. The first bloom showed rich blue color with good bloom size. Rick Ernst's cultivars **'Ball of Confusion'** (04) and **'Looky Loo'** (05) showed well-branched multiple stalks with distinctive coloring. **'Ball of Confusion'** displayed purple plicata standards with a thin purple rim and a bright purple sprayed pattern on the falls. **'Looky Loo'** had clean white standards and style arms, yellow beards and a red-violet spray pattern over the white ground falls.

Cooley's Garden is still introducing cultivars hybridized by Ben Hager (deceased), and **'Ritzy'** (Hager 04) looked fancy and elegant. The gold yellow lacy flowers really stood out in the garden and the tall stalks withstood the wind. Joe Ghio's "bubble" series continues with superlative flowers. **'Forever Blowing Bubbles'** (07) showed clean white ruffled blooms with good substance on a large clump. **'Vigilant'** (06) had

seven tall bloom stalks that were a little past peak but still drew your eye. Rich blue lavender standards rested atop black purple falls. Another iris that showed great branching with nine buds per stalk was '**Paul Black**' (T. Johnson 04). Medium dark purple flowers with dark orange beards put on a very nice show.

'**Aristocracy**' (06), '**Gypsy Lord**' (06), '**Oreo**' (04) and '**Royal Sterling**' (05) were all outstanding performers from Keith Keppel. '**Aristocracy**'s lavender red-purple flowers with a blue blush under the beard, sported nine buds per stalk. '**Gypsy Lord**' you could see across the garden with very large blooms and robust stalks. '**Oreo**' with its dark purple-black standards and white ground falls edged in the eggplant purple was outstanding. And Perry Dyer said that '**Royal Sterling**' was "holding up better than I am" in the hot and muggy afternoon sun. He went on to say that he thought '**Royal Sterling**', in full bloom with three open flowers on each of seven stalks, was a more feminine, sexier '**Silverado**'.

'**High Chaparral**' (Schreiner 06) displayed tall stalks very well-branched with two open flowers per stalk. And '**Kissed By The Sun**' (Schreiner 06) was a bright cheery, lightly laced flower with cream standards and yellow falls with yellow styles. The Sutton's had a space age iris and a rebloomer that each stood out from the crowd. '**California Dreamin**' (G. Sutton 04, TB-SA) showed off seven stalks with ten buds each. The light yellow flounce was consistent on all open light yellow flowers with gold beards. Mike Sutton's '**Bruce**' (05, TB-RE), a cerise purple with striking blue beards showed off particularly large flowers.

'**Opal Withers**' (Van Hook 05) put on a great show in several of the gardens. Its stalks were tall and well-branched, and the clean white standards and mottled blue blush over white falls stood out among the surrounding bloom. As did '**Vatican Flag**' (Willott 05). Its creamy white standards and light yellow falls, edged in a darker yellow band, were all ruffled on nicely branched stalks.

And last but not least, the award winners for the convention were all blooming magnificently in the OSU Garden. The 'In-Region' award (Region 22), the President's Cup, went to '**Barbara Jean**' (Mullin 05). I remember this light blue iris in a corner with multiple stalks and multiple blooms open on each stalk. The dark blue-black beard was an eye catcher. The 'Out of Region' award, the Cook Cup, went to '**Florentine Silk**' Keppel 2005 (Region 13). This was a showpiece in numerous convention gardens and again at the Master Planting. The peach-orchid, lacy ruffled flowers were perfectly branched on stalks that held up under the Oklahoma wind. And the newest award, the Hager

Cup for the best median iris, went to **'Dividing Line'** Bunnell 2005 (Region 6). This miniature tall bearded clump showed off erect stalks with nine buds per stalk and many triple sockets. There was a good spread of flowers among the blooming stalks, and the pale blue standards and pale violet falls with a darker purple line down the falls showed good color with little fading.

Greg Cary told me some interesting highlights of his time in the OSU Gardens. He said the geese from the nearby pond were very friendly and he would talk to them as he worked in the plantings. They followed him around and talked back. And just a week before the convention, a tractor being used by the OSU horticulture crew got too close and sunk down into part of the mulched pathways. The northeast corner of the pathways had to be quickly redone.

Once the Guest irises are dug and distributed by the end of August 2007, OSU will plant an All American Trial Garden in this space to test hot dry climate plants. It will continue to be open to the public. As an interesting footnote, when Jim Morris asked me to write up this garden, he didn't know that I graduated from Oklahoma State University (Stillwater campus) in 1976. ❧



Barbara Lauck, Fred Kerr & Dave Schreiner at OSU Garden at the OKC convention.

Oklahoma State University Iris Garden

by Jim and Jill Copeland, Region 6, Michigan

The Oklahoma State University Garden was the master planting for the 2007 AIS Convention. The garden tours were arranged so that all convention attendees could visit this garden each of the three tour days. The garden design spelled out "OSU". This was a good idea as there were plenty of wide paths along the iris for the visitors. As the busses approached the planting, one could see a rainbow of color. The irises were in good bloom and condition even though it had rained the three days prior to the tour. Adequate time was allotted each day to fully enjoy the irises.

Several hybridizers of TBs represented Region 6. Mike Greenfield was one with **'Maddy P'** (04), a nicely ruffled bluebird blue with a lighter area in the center of the falls. In this garden, it was a grand clump with six strong stalks. Each stalk had two branches and two spurs for eight buds. Another from our region was Lynda Miller with **'Royal Togs'** (06). It has pink-tan standards, velvety dark purple falls with black spots, and ruffles. In this garden, the clump had four stalks with two branches and six buds. **'Moonlit Crystal'** (Willott 06) was a ruffled, cool white with yellow edges and yellow-orange beards. The stalks with nine buds had branches on its branches! **'Starlight Sonata'** (Stahly 03) had tall strong stalks that stood up to the Oklahoma wind to show the yellow ground purple plicata flowers at their best. The clump, here, had six stalks with three branches and four spurs supporting nine buds. And Marvin Davis's **'Cinnamon Sentiment'** (05) had yellow standards and cinnamon falls with gold beards. Each stalk had two branches and a spur with nine total buds.

A lot of other noteworthy TBs were in this garden and here are a few. **'Royal Storm'** (Tasco 01) has white standards with an infusion of violet near the mid-rib. The falls are striking with dark velvety violet with light marks around the white beard. **'Code Red'** (Aitken 03) is a rosy red with wide bright red beards. This ruffled iris had two branches and a spur on each stalk. It looked like six buds but this variety was on first bloom so we may have missed some. **'Naughty Nights'** (Keppel 06) was standing proudly with ruffled flowers of dark violet standards,

velvety dark red-violet falls, and gold beards. Each stalk had two branches and a spur for seven buds.

There are two different ways to get floriferousness. One is to have lots of buds and the other is to have numerous stalks. **'Last Halo'** (Niswonger 02) is bright! It is ruffled and laced. It has bright yellow standards, white falls with bright yellow rim, and bright yellow beards. This clump had seven stalks with two branches and two spurs holding 7-8 buds. Joe Ghio's **'Vigilant'** (06) had nice disease free foliage. The ruffled flowers have violet standards and velvety red-black falls. This clump had eight stalks each with two branches and a spur for seven buds. **'Opal Withers'** (John Van Hook 05, TB) had ruffled white standards, ruffled violet falls edged lighter and white centers. The clump showed eight stalks with two branches, a spur, and seven buds. **'By Design'** (Kerr 05) was an impressive clump with nine stalks each having three branches with eight buds for 72 flowers for the season. These ruffled flowers have lavender standards, dark velvety purple falls with white haft marks around the, orange beards. Bob Van Liere had a very worthy seedling in **99AD34**. The ruffled flowers had white standards with violet edges and violet falls with white around the red beards. The clump had eleven stalks each with two branches and a spur holding seven buds for 77 flowers! **'Dramatic Style'** (Black 05) was sure dramatic. The clump had ten stalks with light blue standards, velvety purple falls lighter at the edges with brown hafts, and deep orange beards. Schreiner's **'Midnight Treat'** (06) had ten branched stalks with flowers of purple standards and black falls with purple edging, and purple beards.

Some clumps in this garden had multiple stalks with very high bud counts. **'Lucky Loo'** (Ernst 05), a ruffled iris with white standards, and red falls with a light spray around the beards and on to the center of the falls with a light yellow edge, had ten stalks on the two-year clump. Each stalk had four branches with nine buds! That makes 90 flowers. Thomas Johnson's **'Chinook Winds'** (03) had very nice foliage. These ruffled flowers were white with blue in the heart and blue beards. There were fourteen stalks with two branches and a spur for nine buds. This iris will have had 126 flowers before it is out of bloom! And the winner is... **Okapi Poppy** ([Kasperek](#) 04). It is a ruffled pink bitone with orange beards. The clump was awesome with 18 stalks. Each stalk had three branches with ten buds. That makes **180** flowers over the season!

And the MTBs really put on a show. Here are a few that impressed us that competed for the new Ben R. Hager Cup for the best median seen at convention. **'Madam President'** (Thurman 01, MTB) can best be described as bright! It had yellow standards, red-violet falls with

bright yellow edges, and wonderful foliage. It placed as the third runner-up in the Hager Cup balloting. '**Petit Louvois**' (Mahan 06, MTB) was a clump with more stalks than could be counted, probably over 30. Each stalk had eight buds. The flowers have rose-tan standards and bright, velvety, red falls with gold beards. It was the first runner-up for the Hager Cup. And last but, certainly, not least, '**Dividing Line**' by Charles Bunnell, (05, MTB) is well named. It is light lavender with a darker spot on the falls and a lighter line down the middle of each fall. This two-year clump had 30 stalks. With 3-4 buds per socket and ten buds per stalk, held well above the clean beautiful foliage, this clump will have had **300** blooms this season. The placement and timing are perfect so the clump is not crowded and blooms a long time. We were not the only ones to appreciate Bunnell's (a Region 6 hybridizer) introduction because '**Dividing Line**' was voted the first ever Ben R. Hager Cup winner by a significant margin.

On the third day of the tour, garden judging of tall bearded iris was offered in this garden. Each instructor had ten to twenty students and this worked out well as there was plenty of room in the garden. As the final whistle was blown, the busses were loaded and everyone left with good memories of a fine display of irises. Our thanks are extended to Greg and Diana Cary who were in charge of the OSU planting. 🌸



'Angel Wings' L. Miller '05 TB SA

Petal Pushers Garden

by Vince Lewonski, Regions 3 and 19

Located in Kingfisher, OK, this garden is owned by Bill and Elizabeth McVicker. Bill was the convention chairman, but didn't let the time and duties of the convention keep him from having a very nice convention garden and the largest private garden on the tour.


This was the northernmost of the gardens, and the farthest away from the convention hotel. It had very different conditions than the other gardens. The overriding force here was wind. Strong wind. Constant wind. 40 miles per hour wind. Dorothy and Toto blowing-by-overhead sort of wind. Many of the falls on the irises were bent up on one side from the force of the wind. Taking photos was almost impossible. The trees in the area had a permanent lean from the wind. The lawn chairs all blew over. The portable potties were all staked down. I asked Bill later how often they get wind like that. He said, "All the time except about four days a year." More power to him! I don't think I would try to grow irises under such conditions. People were telling me that it "hurt" to stand leaning into the wind for the hour we were there.

Surprisingly, the problem you would expect to see in such wind - stalks falling over - didn't exist. Stalks tended to be a little shorter than normal, but that may have had more to do with the dry weather that Oklahoma had in the weeks prior to the convention rather than the wind.

There was some serious acreage devoted to irises. There were two rows for the convention guests. There was a field that I would guess was several acres with lined out varieties - there were sections as long as 50 to 60 feet that was all one cultivar. There was a long row of TBs along the driveway. There was a field of Bill's seedlings behind the barn. There was a small pond with Louisiana irises in it (unfortunately, not out yet). There was a small bed with some Siberian and Spuria irises. Although only a few Siberians were out, they appeared to be happy and doing well, with many showing stalks, even though this has got to be close to the limit of their range. Surprisingly, this bed was not mulched. Maybe the ground water is closer to the surface in that spot. None of the spurias were out yet, though there were a lot of stalks coming.

The SDBs and IBs were mostly gone. The tall bearded guests were slightly past peak, but there weren't many that had bloomed out yet. Ones that caught my eye were: **'Chinook Winds'** (T. Johnson 03) TB, strangely appropriately named for this garden! Big, husky plants, with five stalks and 7-8 buds per stalk. Color is light blue, with a yellow to blue beard. **'Dance Recital'** (Keppel 05) TB, pale lilac-blue standards and near-white falls with an orange beard. Four stalks were up, with nice branching and 6-8 buds. **'Dividing Line'** (Bunnell 05) MTB, violet bitone, with a paler fall edge and medial fall stripe. Big, healthy clump, with 3-4 buds per socket and up to thirteen buds per stalk. This was performing as well here as it was in the other guest gardens. You could see why this went on to be awarded the first-ever Ben R. Hager Cup (awarded to a median iris) at this convention. **'Dutchman's Dream'** (Van Liere 05) TB, muted pink standards over lavender-mauve falls, with an orange beard. I had never seen this before, and it made a big impression. There were twelve increase and eight stalks in the clump. **'Paul Black'** (T. Johnson 03) TB, violet, with a bright orange beard. The clump had three stalks, with 7-8 buds on each, and nice wide branching. This got my vote for the Franklin Cook Cup. **'Sweet Emotions'** (Christopherson 03) TB, pink self, with a short horn. Only one stalk was up on this, but it had six increase. High bud count (ten) on this, with nice spacing.

We did have time to explore and check out the non-guest irises in the garden also. Ones that caught my eye included **'Active Duty'** (Stahly 99) SIB, wine color with three buds per stalk. One of the few Siberians that had opened. **'Celebration Song'** (Schreiner's 93) TB, light apricot-pink standards, pale blue-lavender falls, tangerine beard. Very impressive when you see 50 feet of it! **'Goldkist'** (Black 93) TB, white, with gold hafts and beards and purple markings around the beard. Nice bud count and branching in the entire row. **'Panic Button'** (L. Miller 98) TB, purple bitone with a red beard. A big clump with lots of stalks. **'Powder Blue Cadillac'** (Sutton 97) TB, light blue self, with good-sized flowers and 7-8 buds per stalk.

Big thanks to the McVickers for putting together such a nice convention, and still managing to maintain a fine garden on top of it! 

**Have you recruited a new
AIS member this year?**

The Stahl Garden

by Nyla Hughes, Missouri

The Stahl's garden was built out on the prairie of Oklahoma where wind is a factor, but is tempered by the many elm and cedar trees. Rick and Monte have been gardening and adding flower beds there since 1982, with an eclectic mix of perennials and grasses. Iris beds are found all around the house, but the guest iris beds of 253 cultivars were built on both sides of the driveway for easy access to visitors, so luxuriant flowers were the first thing we saw as we poured off the buses. Even the meadows further out were sprinkled with wildflowers like yellow tragopons and pinkish gauras.

It was a perfect day for flower photography, with a slight overcast and light fog in the distance, and eager attendees flocked to the convention irises. The Stahl's garden seemed to be little affected by the late freeze that decimated bloom for most of the Midwest, and while bloom was perhaps just past peak, there was much to see.

A soft lavender with red beards '**Love Power**', a BB growing in perfect proportion here, was notable from the Aitkens for 2006, as was a large clump of a favorite from previous conventions '**Deliciously Different**' (04), a tasty peach plicata. Paul Black was well represented by '**Fine Porcelain**' (05) a luxuriously ruffled cream touched apricot on the shoulders and highlighted by a tangerine beard.

Newer hybridizer Susan Boyce had an interesting seedling, **99-51-18** in sand colors reminding of her Utah location. Howard Bushnell's '**Martile Rowland**' (2000) provided an eye-catching spot of lemon with its bright tangerine beards. At the other end of the color scale, '**All Night Long**' (Duncan 05) provided an anchor spot of flourishing black in an impressively stalked clump, set off by the red dianthus clumps dotted through the bed.

In moody wine tones, '**Tontentanz**' (01) by local Oklahoma hybridizer Perry Dyer was a very different combination of wine standards and blackish falls edged lighter, with bronzy-gold beards and a waved ruffle pattern.

In a year when weather made branching and bud count unpredictable, Canadian Chuck Chapman's '**Frontier Lady**' (01) had made a large clump with two branches and a spur consistently. Flowers are a springy white veined and washed yellow on the falls with zowie

tangerine beards. For space-age lovers, '**Crystal Fountain**' (Christopherson 07) was a well-shaped white over yellow with blue horns.

As usual, Ken Fisher's blue '**Performer**' (03)...*was*, in an impressive MTB row including Chuck Bunnell's **122 B-18** and **H60-10**, and '**Petit Louvois**' (Mahan 06) whose dusky red-violet tones will appeal to lovers of traditional MTBs.

In-region hybridizer Mark Grumbine had a nicely branched TB '**Hanna's Folly**' (05), white with gold shoulders. In shining yellow with lace galore was the iris that immediately went on my "must have" list, '**Ritz**' (04), with all the attributes you expect of a super Ben Hager introduction, a primo selection by Cooley's Gardens.

Ben Johnson, well-known in the Midwest for '**Heartstring Strummer**' (01) has another winner in '**Party of One**' (06), which made a flourishing clump of eye-catching orange. For lovers of the unusual, '**Bamboo Shadows**' (Keppel 06) was basically finished, but had bloomed bountifully with its "absinthe" and violet-toned flowers.

White '**Bridal Icing**' (03) was an elegant confection of laced gold touches from Tom Johnson, whose '**Disco Eclipse**' (03) was a larger, looser flower of yellow over light violet centered by a dark band. Larry Lauer had a lovely peach-pink seedling **918-1** that showed good branching, and a pretty warm pink, '**Passion Play**' (05) that I especially liked.

A notable blush pink TB seedling **9395-30A2** from Lynn Markham, known for her medians, sported triple sockets. Stephanie Markham, MTB specialist, also had an interesting TB seedling **98-8A**, which had made a nice clump with peach standards over purple plicata falls.

'**Sunshine Lady**' (W.Moores 05) was a glowing lemon yellow and white with good branching. Dave Niswonger scored again with '**Santa Was Here**' (05), a color tribute to the cutting-edge-but-tender, red-shouldered '**Santa**' (Shoop 98). Schreiner's was well represented by '**Blue Temptation**' (05), an elegant tall dark blue, '**Joyful Skies**' (05) another trademark blue, and '**Kissed by the Sun**' (06) a vibrant ray indeed.

Hugh Stout's seedling **PD.CbS.10.01**, white with a lavender edge and big red beard was standing tall despite any weather challenges. '**Prime Power**' (Tasco 06) presented several orange flowers that could power-light any planting. Rick also had a delightful mulberry with undulating ruffles, '**Spring Fantasy**' (02) that I had previously missed.

Seedling **99VV41** from Bob Van Liere was making a nice full neglecta clump with backup buds galore. '**Tara's Choice**' (04) presented an unusual color combination with reddish purple standards and blue falls with a red-purple edging from Betty Wilkerson, who is working for

much-desired extra hardiness.

Further exploration led to the Dykes bed that is Rick's special interest, and even the sometimes miffy individuals were putting on a show, with good care apparent. Louisiana irises were just starting bloom, with '**Vermilion Queen**' the first out. Down by the picturesque lake that gives the house its wonderful view were pseudacorus and more Louisianas.

Daylilies are also an interest of the Stahls, but Monte reports, "The first six inches of daylilies goes to the deer — they don't bother the irises!" Their garden also featured large crape myrtles that hadn't yet leafed out and wonderful dense evergreens, including a glamorous blue Atlas Cedar.

Proceeding to the refreshment table acquainted us with members of the extended family and the Southwest Oklahoma Society (Lawton, OK) members who Monte reported had been a wonderful help. We thank all who made it possible to tour this delightful "prairie on the lake" garden! 🌸

Photo: R. Gormley



Monte Stahl and Nyla Hughes at the Stahl Garden.

Stout Garden

by Kathy Chilton, Arizona

The garden of Hugh and Jennifer Stout is on the outskirts of Oklahoma City, but still in view of the new Capitol Dome erected to celebrate the Oklahoma Centennial. The property started as a five-acre pasture next to a stable. Hugh built the house and after he and Jennifer were married, they began to transform the pasture into charming and varied garden areas. There are four ponds, with a live stream, crossed by bridges and surrounded by whimsical garden art and charming nooks that invite exploration and relaxation.

The largest pond is full of colorful Koi, and features Louisiana irises at the edge. Near the pond area is a lovely pavilion surrounded by lots of metal sculptured garden art. Not to be missed were the cobalt blue bottle tree and the church birdhouse. It was a restful place to enjoy the wonderful homemade baked goods provided by the Tulsa Area Iris Society.

A gently curved bed of guest irises rimmed the drive, separating it from the pond areas. It was filled with colorful, well-grown clumps of irises, including **'Fiery Figure'** (Innerst 00), a show-stopping bright orange with a red beard. There were two large, vigorous seedlings in this bed. Bob Van Liere's **99VV41** is a tall, well-branched bright blue and white amoena with lots of increase and stalks. Jim Begley's **B2 2006** exhibited similar growth with a very clean combination of peach and velvety maroon. Triple socketed terminals were a definite plus. I was pleased to see my namesake **'Kathy Chilton'** (Kerr 06) showing off its old gold standards and velvety red-black falls, set off by a bright gold beard.

The house is surrounded by many colorful trees and unusual plants. A brilliant red smoke tree flanked the house, and colorful plants and interesting foliage bordered the walks and paths. The other side of the house features a large, grassy lawn, punctuated with flower beds, including a large horseshoe shaped bed filled with guest irises, along with other interesting perennials and annual flowers. Some nice space-agers vied for attention here, including **'Oasis Kelly'** (Chadwick 05), a blue-white with large flounces. Michael Sutton's **'Tropical Delight'** (02) was truly delightful with lots of yummy amber yellow and orchid flowers showing off very uniform flounces. **'Power Point'** (T. Johnson 05) was lavender-lilac flushed pink. The upright violet horns made a power point presentation

The largest beds of irises were next to the paddock home of Clyde and Emma, Jennifer's beautiful hunter-jumper horses. Clyde is the tall, black veteran performer and Emma is the lovely chestnut in training. They enjoyed the visitors and obviously thought they were the center of attention – not the irises!

The paddock beds had many well-grown clumps. A lovely and appropriate metal horse sculpture graces this area, along with two sculpted "gardeners" complete with sun hats. One metal cowboy was complete with tin-can hat and two pistols. I was impressed with so many quality cultivars here. Paul Black's '**High Class**' (03) was a truly classy clump of royal blue and white flowers. '**Oklahoma Centennial**' (Black 07) was named in honor of the event and was just opening its first beautiful blue-violet bloom. '**Italian Ice**' (Cadd 01) exhibited lacy pale yellow flowers on perfect stalks. '**Sun Power**' (T. Johnson 04) was a brighter yellow with perfect ruffling. The President's Cup winner, '**Barbara Jean**' (Mullin 05) showed off its lovely sky blue flowers to perfection. '**Royal Sterling**' (Keppel 2003) was perfection of form in icy blue. '**Spring Kiss**' (Black 00) was blooming in a large clump the way we wish all irises would do. Many stalks with many blooms in medium violet with the center of the falls aging to a lighter almost white. This one also had a sweet fragrance.

Hugh Stout is doing some pollen-daubing and I was impressed with his efforts. His TB seedling **AFCK 303** is white with yellow edging on all the petals, the bright orange beard is intensified by golden orange marks by the hafts. The standards are laced, and the falls finished with precise ruffling.

The Stouts have done a marvelous job of creating a large garden that still is intimate and personal. They have shared their creation with many groups and tours, and were anticipating a regional daylily tour this spring, as well as the American Garden Writers Association tour this fall. The Stout garden was a wonderful treat for any gardener to see, and Hugh and Jennifer are just as delightful. We thank them for sharing their fabulous garden with us! 🌸



Hugh and Jennifer Stout
in their garden.

Will Rogers Garden

by Stephen Blecher, Colorado

The Iris garden in Will Rogers Park is maintained by the Oklahoma Iris Society led by chief gardener and long-time OIS member, Jim Smith. This was the fourth time (1959, 1988, 1999, and 2007) that it was an AIS Convention tour garden. Will Rogers Park is Oklahoma City's largest public park, and the iris garden with its prominent iris sign attracts large numbers of visitors during the bloom season. It is situated next to a small lake populated with ducks and geese, and has a rose garden on the opposite bank. The iris beds are surrounded by trees and shrubs, so some of the plants receive more sunlight than others. An unnamed row of spuria and Louisiana irises, maintained by the Oklahoma City Council of Garden Clubs, was beginning to bloom.

I will mention a few of the tall bearded iris cultivars that attracted my attention by virtue of their novel and distinctive appearance. All of the ones listed here had acceptable branching and bud count.

'Solomon's Treasure' (Van Lier 06): A large robust clump, its standards are soft buff yellow, and the falls are muted rose, with gold shoulders. Beards are orange and the flowers are round and ruffled.

'Applause Line' (Ghio 05): Sparkling white standards, falls are deep red-purple with a narrow white edge. Shoulders blend to brick red, and beards are brick red.

'Winterfest' (Schreiner 05): Crisp white self, with a hint of blue. There is an subtle violet shading around the beards, shoulders, style arms, and base of the falls. The beards are light blue, becoming yellow in the throat. Flowers are ruffled and well proportioned, and the plant is floriferous.


'Blinding Light' (Ernst 05): Falls are brilliant lemon yellow, with a pale yellow rim around the gold beards. There is a whitish blaze, and a pattern of dark veins radiating into the blaze from around the shoulders. Standards are white with a hint of yellow, and with subtle yellow rims.

'Waimea Canyon Sunrise' (L. Johnson 05): Aptly named! Ruffled and with broad, well -proportioned flowers. Standards are soft gold and the falls are smoky red-violet, blending to old gold at the rims, shading to brick red thumbprints at the shoulders. Beards are gold.

'Start Your Day' (Kerr 04): A very stylish-looking dark top.

Standards are light lavender at the top, shading to strong blue-violet infusions near the midribs and base. The falls and beards are a velvety white. Flowers are lightly ruffled.

'Bewitchment' (Ghio 04): Excellent form, heavily ruffled and fluted, and the color is rather subtle and not easy to describe. The falls are a light, muted pink, almost a flesh tone, becoming lighter near the beards. The standards are a more vivid shade of pink near the top, gradually darkening to smoky violet near the base. Beards are brick red. There is a thin dividing line between subtle colors and "muddy" ones, but in **'Bewitchment'** the effect is subtle and elegant at the same time.


Some of these irises I have seen growing in other gardens in Oklahoma City, Portland and Denver, where they also looked very good. The others are ones that I saw for the first time. It will be very interesting to see them again in the future. Thanks to the Oklahoma Iris Society for their long term dedication in providing an on-going iris planting for the citizens of Oklahoma City. 

AIS Insurance

Michelle Snyder, Insurance Chair

For those of you who do not already know, our Liability Insurance is now with a new insurance company. If Certificates of Insurance are needed, I have made it much easier to obtain the needed documents.

To obtain Certificates of Insurance go to www.irises.org/insurance.htm and click on the text Request for Certificates of Insurance. Download the form, complete it as necessary, and fax it to the number shown.

As always, if there are any problems associated with obtaining the needed Certificate, or if you have any questions in general regarding insurance, please contact me at either (928) 282-5867, or my email address of sammygiz@aol.com. 

Median Stars in Oklahoma City

by Jean Morris, Missouri

Day One, OSU

Our Oklahoma City convention tours began in the John E. Kirkpatrick Horticulture Center at Oklahoma State University. We were told that the soil in the beds had not previously had irises growing in it, thus the vigorous growth we observed.

A large, rather tall clump of **'Plum Quirky'** (Probst 05) occupied a corner spot and attracted attention right away. This MTB, along with **'Pretty Jazzy'** (Probst 04) made nice clumps. The former is gold over plum edged lime, while the latter is gold over burgundy edged yellow. The BB **'Border Guard'** (Ghio 03) showed off in pastel yellow over soft burnt orange with rusty shoulders. The tangerine beards added a nice contrast. The MTB **'Performer'** (Fisher 03) was quite nice. It is a lavender on white plicata with lots of dots.

The star median of the day was the MTB **'Dividing Line'** (Bunnell 05). The large clump was very impressive with many flowers in lavender over amethyst with lavender edges. The distinctive dark lavender line on the falls gives this iris its fitting name. It was voted best median seen on the tours and became the first winner of the Ben R. Hager Cup provided by the Median Iris Society to the American Iris Society.

Stout Garden

Next we visited the Hugh and Jennifer Stout garden where **'Madam President'** (Thurman 01) was performing well. This MTB has lovely jewel toned colors of bright gold over violet, pencil-edged gold. The IB **'Exotic Artistry'** (Willott 05) was still in bloom. The standards are a soft yellow and falls are heavily marked lavender on white with brown along side the beards.

Stahl Garden

Several medians performed well in the Rick and Monte Stahl garden. **'Preppy'** (Vaughn 00) is a BB that grows in class. It has lavender standards and lavender veining on white ground falls. Other BBs of interest were **'Lost In Space'** (Aitken 05) in rosy orchid with orange beards ending in rose horns, and **'Fascinating'** (Craig 05), also in rose

tones with red veining and bronze beards.

The MTBs were especially impressive here. **'Petit Louvois'** (Mahan 06) formed an outstanding clump in tannish rose over dark rose with orange beards. Anyone familiar with the historic TB **'Louvois'** (Cayeux 1936) will understand the appropriate name. Wouldn't it be fun to grow the two side by side? **'Performer'** again performed, receiving a "wow!" notation. **'Elfin Shadows'** (L. Burton 04) was nice. It is an orchid bitone with gold beards. **'Redrock Princess'** (Witt 06) has a new look in colors of chocolate over red with orange beards. Bunnell seedling **122B-18** was contrasty in brightest yellow over cream with brown lines and a yellow edge.

McVicker Garden

In the Mike and Tona McVicker garden three MTBs stood out. **'Lighter Moments'** (Fisher 05) was pretty in light true blue. **'Missus Bee'** couldn't be missed in lavender over bright red-violet, edged lavender. Also, **'Bach Fugue'** was very unique with pale lavender plicata marking on white with random deep purple broken color splashes on the falls. **'Cut Above'** (Aitken 05) was a nice BB in mauve over apricot with a big orange beard. **'My Fantasy'** (Craig 05) was listed as an IB but this rosy lavender amoena resembled an MTB with small flowers on well-branched stems.

Day Two, Hampton Garden

The second day of tours began in Karen Hampton's eastern OKC garden. Three MTBs stood out here. **'Sailor's Dream'** (Fisher 04) was a vivid blue-violet and formed a nice clump. **'Aglow Again'** (Fisher 04) bloomed in pale peach with orange beards. Bunnell seedling **188-2** was a heavily marked violet on white plicata with great bud count. This garden seemed very shady but perhaps there is more sun another time of day.

OSU Again

The second visit to OSU provided the opportunity to evaluate many MTBs. Stephanie Markham's seedling **98-42A** was a deep purple amoena of the **'Consummation'** type but with improved growth habits. **'Jiggity Jig'** (S. Markham 07) was attractive in pale lavender over dark purple with heavy white veining. **'Think Spring'** (S. Markham 03) formed a nice lavender clump. **'Sky Tracery'** (S. Markham 03) grew in a very vigorous clump with nicely flared flowers, lavender standards and veined lavender on white falls. This iris has great charm. **'Velvet Skirts'** (Willott 06) presented in amethyst over deep purple, pencil edged amethyst. It has lavender lines and gold beards. **'Jack's Pick'** (Bunnell

06) was butterscotch over raspberry with white veining. Bunnell's seedling **180BC-1** was soft rose over burgundy edged rose. It has white lines at the hafts and grew in a large clump. '**Petit Louvois**' looked great the second day. Seedling **SuSpDr A** by new hybridizer Carol Blais of Ludlow, MA, was eye-catching in yellow with a slight rose fall marking and golden beards.

Four BBs stood out. '**Simmer**' (L. Markham 99) was perfect in every way in raspberry with gold beards. '**Dance Gypsy**' (L. Markham 03) formed a lovely clump in smoky plum with yellow shoulders and nice orange beards. Lynn Markham's seedling **95-7D** is a smoky lavender, bluer in the falls, with mauve hafts. It has a different look, not unlike the TB '**Deep Dark Secret**'. '**Crocodile Rock**' (B. Nichols 06) was golden tan with brown plicata marking on light gold. The height was good but the flower was a tad oversized. An arilbred median '**Hammurabi**' (Baumunk 04, OGB, 19") was very exotic looking. It was amethyst over red-violet with some gold markings around the bronze beards.

Will Rogers Park Garden

We had been to this OKC garden with its wonderful iris sign in other years. This time it was a little past peak bloom. The BB '**Teapot Tempest**' (L. Markham 99) displayed blooms in violet with light blue beards. The intermediate bearded '**End Zone**' (Stahly 03) showed its last two stalks from a large clump. This burgundy iris with bronze beards was showing how sequential stalks can stretch IB bloom to three weeks or more.

Oklahoma State Capitol

The year 2007 is the Centennial for the state of Oklahoma. For many years the Capitol Building had no dome. But that was fixed in time for this year's 100th celebration of statehood and Oklahoma can be proud of the dome, capped by a bronze sculpture of a Native American Indian.

Real working oil wells are on the capitol grounds as were many iris beds. MTBs '**Elfin Shadows**', '**Plum Quirky**' and '**Petit Louvois**' were doing well as was '**Cherry Berry**' (Willott 03) in red-violet with orange beards. The IB '**Kahuna**' (M. Smith 02) was a perky brown with red line markings and really orange beards. This brown is not dull! The BB '**Love Power**' (Aitken 06) was showing nicely in clean lavender, darker in the standards and with red beards.

Day Three, Bulling Garden

We traveled to Mulhall, OK to the 160-acre farm of Scott and April Bulling for our last day of tours. Here the BB '**Moontime**' (Craig 05)

stood out in cream with yellow shoulders. Of worthy note was the MTB seedling **01-2A** by Stephanie Markham. It was white with a lime cast and lemon-lime beards. This iris formed a large clump of twenty-plus stalks and grew healthy among many plants suffering freeze damage and leaf spot.

“Petal Pushers” Garden

As we arrived at the Kingfisher, OK gardens of Bill and Elizabeth McVicker the wind picked up to the usual 30mph velocity. We thought, “What a perfect place for medians!” Lawn chairs were blown over and the portable potties were staked down so they wouldn’t suffer the same fate. Surprisingly some TBs in the production fields were waving back. Stalks appeared to be more flexible here. The SDB rebloomer **‘Forever Blue’** was still (or again) in bloom. One could see many old, finished stalks along with a few newer repeat bloomstalks in blossom for Convention visitors. The IBs **‘Bold Statement’** (Tasco 02) in blue-violet and gold, and **‘Dude’** (Keppel 02), a brown on bright yellow plicata, were performing well. **‘Crispy Critter’** (Aitken 04, BB) was lavender with violet in the standards and gold beards. BB **‘Dance Gypsy’** was again blooming well. **‘Ramblin’ Man’** (Lauer 05, BB), a light blue with dark blue beards was attractive and growing well within class.

Three MTBs looked good: **‘Lighter Moments’** (Fisher 05) in light lavender with a small white zonal formed a good clump; **‘Ben-A-Factor’** (R. Miller 00) in soft yellow over orchid; and **‘Deuce’** (Lynda Miller 04) a violet on white plicata. Unfortunately Lynda’s **‘Cheerful Doll’** was misnamed in the Convention gardens so we were unable to see it.

OSU Final Visit

Our last garden of the Convention was our third time to OSU. We checked our notes from previous visits and prepared to vote our convention ballots. By visiting the master planting three times, we were able to see and judge the varieties that were early or late and how well they stood up to the wind, rain and high humidity. We were able to eliminate some from consideration that demonstrated inordinate leaf spot or rotted bloom stems.

Summary

Most of the Convention gardens were at peak bloom, so we saw a great many irises. Since much of the Midwest to the East coast suffered from a late freeze in early April that greatly curtailed bloom, attending the OKC Convention gave many people their only opportunity of the year to evaluate irises in full bloom. Quite a few BBs grew at TB height

and size, a reminder to hybridizers to guest their BB seedlings in other parts of the country before introducing them. When they consistently grow out of class, call them what they are – tall bearded. Leaf spot was a bit of a problem where clumps showed vigorous growth and became crowded. Some judicious trimming and deadheading would have been appreciated. The excellent bloom, beautifully laid out gardens and fine Oklahoma hospitality made this Convention superior and one we will long remember. Thanks to all for a great time! 🌸



Jim Morris presenting *The Medianite* 50th MIS Anniversary Issue to Jeanne Plank.

check out the AIS web site at
www.irises.org

SPCNI

From SIGNA, via 'Canyon Snow'

By Richard Richards, Terri Hudson and Debby Cole, SPCNI

Pacific Coast Irises have been a subject of considerable interest for over 150 years. The 1829 British Botanical Registry recorded an illustration of *I. tenax* whose seed had been sent to England by botanist David Douglas, most likely from Fort Vancouver on the Lower Columbia River, present day Washington/Oregon. *I. innominata* and *I. hartwegii* plants have been grown in gardens in England since the beginning of the 20th century. Curiously, it was reported in 1913 that *I. douglasiana*, widely regarded on the U.S. West Coast as the toughest PC species, was doing poorly in the British climate's hot, humid summers.

Interest in iris species became apparent in the American Iris Society in the 1950s, and its growth to eight round-robins in the 1960s led to AIS recognition of a species section, titled the Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA), in 1966. Interest within SIGNA in Pacific Coast irises was evidenced by the number of participants in a field trip (led by species round-robin chair Roy Davidson) from the 1969 AIS Berkeley (CA) convention to see the wild irises. This eventually led to recognition of a Pacific Coast Irises section, known as the Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises (SPCNI), by the AIS Board in the spring of 1973. George Stambach and his endless enthusiasm for the PCIs had brought popular interest to a boil, and in September of 1973 Ray Chesnik brought the organizational details together for the legal birth of SPCNI. There were 48 charter members then from California, Oregon and Washington, and today there are hundreds of members from across the world.

The specific purposes of the Society are to promote interest in the growing and development of Pacific Coast native irises; to identify varieties and to eliminate duplication in nomenclature; to maintain a complete list of registered varieties and species; to publish information and data; to support research of a scientific and horticultural nature; and to encourage the development and maintenance of display gardens for Pacific Coast Native Irises.

Several of these goals are served in the Society's twice-yearly publication, the *Almanac*. The title is very apt, as an almanac is defined as a miscellany of useful information, though some of dubious merit,

including entertaining remarks, pithy and scientific observations, and remedies for sundry ailments, both grave and trivial. Another feature of the *Almanac* is the fall issue's fundraising Seed List, offering for sale to members. The seed of both PCN species and named PCI cultivars are donated by other members. Seed provides an alternate way of growing Pacific Coast iris for people who cannot obtain or cannot grow live plants from another area. It is also a good way to become familiar with the PCN species for those who can't readily visit the type locales, although the Society does hold Treks every several years to do that.

SPCNI maintains and regularly updates a complete Checklist of registered varieties and species, readily available to members. And in the interest of better identifying varieties, the Society's Recorder has put together a CD of quality photographs of many of them, which will likewise be periodically updated and available to members.

There is probably no Pacific Coast Iris as well known and as widely grown as '**Canyon Snow**' (D. Emery, Selector, 75). It appears in gardens up and down the Pacific Coast, from Washington State to Southern California. It appears in the ancestry of many recent introductions. It has won the Mitchell Award, the highest award that can be given a PCI by the American Iris Society. It is continually at or near the top in PCI popularity polls, and has been there since shortly after its introduction in the 1970s.

One reason for this wide acclaim is that it is one of the easiest PCIs to grow in a wide range of climates. From the coast to hot inland valleys, from the cold winters of Washington to the hot summers of southern California, this iris not only endures, but also usually thrives. It has survived record cold spells in Oregon. It is presently growing in Phoenix, and has been for five years. It has taken over a whole flowerbed in inland Southern California, where it was planted from a one-gallon pot more than twenty-five years ago. (It has successfully resisted the efforts of the family dog to remove it from the shady bed on hot summer afternoons.) It has been established for long periods of years in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Tulsa, Oklahoma, refuting the belief that PCIs will only grow in mild areas of the West Coast. It is also being grown in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere.

Some of this wide range of distribution occurs because it has been circulated by several native plant nurseries up and down the coast, whose concern is not that it has won awards, but that it is easy to propagate and dependable when planted at the right time, and sometimes even at the wrong time. Its lush foliage remains bright green and mostly unblemished throughout the year, making it an attractive addition to the garden in seasons other than summer. In its home garden, the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden in California, it covers the ground like drifts of snow in

spring, hence its name. It repeats this performance in most other locations.

As prominent as this iris is today, its origins are wrapped in mystery. According to people at the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens, a can of it appeared in the propagation area one spring. The origin of this seedling and of the seed which produced it is subject to debate. A horticulturist at the Garden, Dana Emery, is credited with its selection in 1974 and it was introduced in 1975 via McCaskill Gardens in Pasadena, CA.

What is clear is that **'Canyon Snow'** is mostly, if not completely, derived from *I. douglasiana* parents. When it first appeared in the Garden, it was a distinct improvement on the available whites, and still has an aesthetically appealing form, though not as broad of flower parts as many contemporary PCI hybrids. Today it represents an intermediate ground between the slender, graceful flowers of the species, appreciated by the purists, and the very broad form preferred by many contemporary hybridizers.

In vigor and hardiness it surpasses most if not all of the contemporary hybrids. This is a valuable trait both to the home gardener and to the hybridizer concerned with hardiness, vigor, and gardenability, which it passes along to many of its progeny in generous quantities.

All these considerations make **'Canyon Snow'** a supreme ambassador for Pacific Coast Native Irises, and a joy to gardeners not only on the West Coast, but also throughout the country, and in those other countries in which it flourishes. ♪

Photo: Stanton



Kathy Chilton teaching tall bearded Judges' Training in the OSU Garden in OKC.

Hiroshi Shimizu

2006 AIS Hybridizers' Medal Winner

by Clarence Mahan, Virginia

Many iris hybridizers have bred irises with new colors and new color patterns. Only a handful of hybridizers have created new types of irises. One man who has created a new type of iris is Hiroshi Shimizu of Japan. Before Shimizu created his eye-shadow irises, a couple of iris breeders had successfully bred hybrids of *Iris ensata* and *Iris pseudacorus*, notably Dr. Osugi's 'Aichi no Kagayaki' (1962) and Mr. Ueki's 'Kimboshi' (1971). These hybrids all had yellow flowers and yellow-green foliage.

Hiroshi Shimizu began a program to create improved hybrids of *Iris ensata* and *Iris pseudacorus* in 1993. He obtained seeds of many different strains of *Iris pseudacorus* from the British Iris Society Seed Exchange. He grew these seeds in pots, as he grows all of his irises. When the *Iris pseudacorus* seedlings came into bloom, Shimizu pollinated about 100 of them with mixed pollen from Japanese irises. The seedlings that resulted from the pod of an *Iris pseudacorus* that Shimizu subsequently named 'Gubijin' (2005) were remarkable in their colors and color pattern diversity. The seedlings had two things in common, namely a striking, deep blue-violet halo and green, not yellow-green, foliage.

Subsequently, Shimizu made many crosses using 'Gubijin' as the pod parent and various Japanese irises as pollen parents. Shimizu has selected several hundred of the best of these and calls them eye-shadow irises, a name derived from the blue-violet halo on the falls of the flower. Although these hybrid irises are apparently sterile, they are very vigorous and make wonderful garden plants with flowers having colors and patterns that have never before been seen in an iris garden. Although only three of these eye-shadow irises have been introduced in the U.S. so far, many more will be introduced in the future. Those who attended the SJI convention in 2005 saw several of the eye-shadow irises, including 'Soushu' and 'Kouryu', pictures of which are posted on the web site of the Society for Japanese Irises.

Shimizu's spectacular success with interspecies hybrids does not detract from his outstanding career as a breeder of first-rate Japanese irises, several of which have been first introduced in the United States, such as

'Reisyun' (1996), 'Koshui No Asa' (1998), and 'Yaemonmiji' (1997).

Hiroshi Shimizu was born in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan in 1953. He and his wife Yoko have two daughters, Keiko and Akiko and they live in Sagamihara, south of Tokyo. Shimizu graduated from Nihon University in 1975 with a degree in plant genetics and plant breeding. He also holds a degree from Nihon Medical Technology College and is a qualified medical technologist in blood transfusion medicine. His current position is Chief of Blood Quality Control at the Tokyo western blood center of the Japan Red Cross. He is a director of the Japan Iris Society and is the AIS Registrar's coordinator for Japan. He has written articles for the AIS *Bulletin*, *The Review* of the SJI, and the British Iris Society *Year Book*. He also breeds *Hepatica nobilis* var. *japonica*.

All of Hiroshi Shimizu irises are grown and bred in his small garden in Sagamihara. The irises are grown in pots tier upon tier. Many people who had such limited space would think that hybridizing irises would be impossible. Hiroshi Shimizu has used the space to create scores of new, lovely Japanese irises and a new race of irises of incredible beauty. *Ed. Reprinted from The Review of the Society for Japanese Irises, Spring 2007.* 🌸



Photo: Copeland

Hiroshi Shimizu in the Kenyon Garden, New Zealand, 2000

International Iris Competition

Florence, Italy 2007

Reported by E. Roy Epperson, North Carolina

Tall Bearded

- 1st Premio Firenze (Gold Florin) of the Tourist Organisation:
'**Aurelie**' (R. Cayeux 03, France)
- 2nd Tuscany Region Prize: '**Sorriso Di Alice**' (R. Marucchi, Italy)
- 3rd Silver Plate of the Industrial Organisation: '**Red Masterpiece**'
(Schreiners 04, USA)
- 4th Italian Iris Society Silver Medal: To Piero Bargellini for '**Una McLean**'
(G. Grosvenor 00/01, Australia)
- 5th Honorable Mention: '**Brussels**' (T. Johnson 04, USA)
- 6th Honorable Mention: '**Rippling Azure**' (G. Middleton, R.03,
England)
- 7th Honorable Mention: '**Pickledilly**' (L. Painter 04, USA)
- 8th Honorable Mention: '**Torero**' (R. Cayeux 05, France)
- 9th Honorable Mention: '**Stardust Dragon**' (A. & D. Cadd 03,
USA)
- 10th Honorable Mention: '**Broken Record**' (M. Sutton 05, USA)

Special Prizes

Comune di Firenze Silver Plate for the Best Red Variety: '**Red Masterpiece**' (Schreiners 04, USA)

Chamber of Commerce Prize for the Best Commercial Variety:
'**Aurelie**' (R. Cayeux 03, France)

Amici dei Fiori Cup for the Best Italian Variety: '**Sorriso Di Alice**' (R. Marucchi, Italy)

Louise Branch Prize for the Best Branched Variety: '**Aurelie**' (R. Cayeux 03, France)

Florence Garden Club Cup for the Most Original Color: '**Torero**'
(Cayeux 05, France)


Perugia Garden Club Cup for the Best Scented Variety: '**Citta Di Bergamo**' (L. Mostosi, R.03, Italy)

Arezzo Garden Club Prize for the Best Late Variety 2007: '**Purple People Eater**' (A. & D. Cadd 03, USA)

Rora and Luciano Bausi Prize for the Best Deep Blue Variety: '**Rippling Azure**' (G. Middleton R.03, England)


Leila and Paolo Tarini Prize for the Best Violet Variety: '**Purple Ritz**' (L. Painter 03, USA)

Giorgio Saviane Prize for the Best Early Variety: '**Sorriso Di Alice**' (R. Marucchi, Italy)

Società Toscana di Orticoltura Prize for the Best Border Bearded Variety: '**Be My Baby**' (P. Black 04, USA) 

Australian Dykes Medal

Reported by Sharon Drinkwater, Australia

The Australian 2006 Dykes Medal Trial Garden results have been announced. The Australian Dykes Medal is awarded to '**Second Option**' (Grosvenor 99/00, TB). It was pictured in the July 2006 AIS *Bulletin* on page 43 when it won the Iris Society of Australia (ISA) 2005 Medal. The ISA 2006 Medal was awarded to '**Daintree**' (J.C. Taylor 99/00, LA). This ruffled Louisiana iris is yellow and a bit deeper around the green signal. Congratulations to each hybridizer on their awards. 



'Joyfulness'
Willott 06 TB

In the Oklahoma State
University Garden
at Oklahoma City

Franciris® 2007

Reported by Chantal Sulmont, France

Bonsoir, good day, buonasera, and guten Abend! I'm reporting from Jouy-en-Josas near Paris. The International Tall Bearded Iris Competition, Franciris 2007, was organized by the French Society of Irises and Bulbs (SFIB). Over 120 tall bearded irises were entered into garden competition by 24 hybridizers from nine countries. This included seven hybridizers from the United States. The irises were planted in 2005 and cared for by students of Tecomah (School of Environment and Life Enhancement).

The judges were Stephanie Boot (NZ), President of the jury, Milan Blazek (CZ), Cy Bartlett (UK), Jérôme Boulon (F), and Sylvain Ruaud (F). The judging took place the week of May 20, 2007. The weather conditions, particularly the summer-level temperatures which are unusual during tall bearded season, upset both the growth of the flower stems and length of time they stayed in bloom. Because of storms, all irises were staked (very discreetly during the judging week) so as not to have an unattractive show, given that the irises' large flowers are vulnerable to showers and heavy rain.

The weather cooled down enabling the International Jury to select 30 irises (late flowering varieties) for judging. After a week of evaluation, the following winners were announced:

First Prize, Prix Vilmorin: 'Solovinaya Noch' (Nina Miroschnichenko, Ukraine). This deep black TB of Nina's was in top form. This lady, 92 years young, is the veteran of our competition. Milan Blazek called her from Tecomah with the news and exchanged a few words in Russian.

Second Prize, Prix Claude Monet: 'Mamy Framboise' (Bernard Laporte/V. Fur, R. 04, France). This is a pink with lighter pink veining, or, framboise veine'. This was also displayed at the 2000 competition held at the Broceliande garden.

Third Prize: 'Italian Ice' (Cadd 01, USA). This creamy yellow won an AIS Award of Merit in 2005.

Best French Variety: 'Mamy Framboise' (see above).

Best Blue Bitone: 'Airforce One' (G. Sutton 02, USA). Light blue over deep blue with blue spaceage flounces.

Best Fragrance: 'Arcobaleno' (Luigi Mostosi R.03, Italy). This is almond over orchid with spaceage spoons.

Best Red, White & Blue: 'Norgat' (Gerard Madore' R. 05,

Errata

Corrections to Jean Witt's article April 2007 AIS Bulletin

Bruce Filardi, Oregon

Although I thought the April 2007 AIS *Bulletin* would be the last time my name would appear in print, here I am again! Jean Witt has asked me to write up some corrections for her article "More Complicated than You Think" which appeared in the April issue. These errors crept in somewhere between Jean's typewriter and the printed page. Please note the following corrections:


Page 51: *I. nelsonii* should be *I. wilsonii*.

Page 52 (line 11): "chimera" should be chimeras.

Page 72: Please correct spelling to *Limnanthes*.

In addition, there were last-minute problems with some of the digital images for the April issue – specifically the Witt color pages and the Keppel ad – and I did not get to see them until it was too late to make major corrections. In Keith Keppel's ad, if nothing else, the photo does not do justice to his very fine cultivar 'Gypsy Lord'.

There were several "infelicities" (as Anner Whitehead would say!) on the Witt color pages. The color of 'Sherwin-Wright' (page 54) is not accurate, and should actually be medium yellow. The captions are confusing on pages 54-55, and the picture of 'Ring around Rosie' on page 57 is upside down (although its pattern is still clear!).

Please excuse these errors, which were not the fault of Ms. Witt! 

*Have you recruited a new
AIS member this year?*

"To Be or Not To Be"

The Issue of Deadheading

by Paul Black, Oregon

I think the debate over whether to deadhead or not to deadhead convention guest irises has been around since I've been attending conventions and also well before my appearance into the iris world. Each convention gardener tries to do everything correctly and as instructed. The convention chairman provides those instructions as they understand them. As with most instructions, there is always room for interpretation as to what they mean. Perhaps it would be helpful for us to open a dialog and examine again the purpose and impact of deadheading or not deadheading. I have written this from the point of view of a hybridizer. The feelings I have as a hybridizer parallel those feelings I have as an AIS member attending the convention to enjoy irises that are blooming.

When I attend a convention, I do so anticipating beautiful bloom, beautifully grown and displayed - subject to the whims of nature. I don't come as a judge expecting to fill out my ballot from what I've seen growing and blooming. Counting buds is definitely not my top priority. What are the justifications for not removing spent blooms? One of the justifications for leaving spent blooms intact is so the number of buds can be counted. There is a very simple compromise to accommodate this need. The spent bloom can be snipped or pinched off just above the ovary leaving the tell-tale ovary as evidence that there was a bud there.

Another expressed reason for not deadheading is so one can see if the bloom is self-cleaning; does it dry up and drop off in a timely manner so the clump remains tidy. In my experience, the ability to "self-clean" and substance go hand in hand. Excellent substance means the flower isn't going to dry up and drop off like one with tissue paper substance. Take your pick - great substance and flowers that last longer but that may also hang around a bit too long or blooms with tissue paper substance that last a day and are thoroughly dried and out of the way the next day. Life is a compromise. Many of us walk through our gardens looking and dead-heading as we look. It is an involvement with our plants that many of us enjoy and are willing to tolerate in order for one of our favorite flowers to stay around just a little bit longer. My

point is that I like to see a garden that is neatly groomed. It is a great pleasure to visit gardens that have been neatly groomed.

What are the effects of leaving the entire spent bloom intact? It greatly diminishes the visual impact and beauty of the irises being viewed. It also causes problems with back-up buds being able to open properly. In warmer, more humid and wetter climates, it promotes a proliferation of bacteria which causes buds and branches to rot off. For me personally, I want to see flowers at their very best; all tidy, clean, and ready to wow the public and us with their beauty, not their spent blooms. Being able to shoot pleasing photos is also an important consideration that photographers will have opinions about.

As a hybridizer, I want to see my creations displayed so they look their very best. As hybridizers, we expend time and money to get plants to conventions. Convention attendees spend their time and money to come and enjoy one of their favorite flowers. Convention chairmen and convention gardeners donate hours of time and work to provide that experience. It is difficult for me to see the necessity of diminishing that experience for the sake of soggy, spent blooms. I think it would be well to put our heads together and develop a compromise that accommodates as many of us as possible and provides that ultimate, unobstructed, iris viewing experience. ♪



'Fiery Figure' (Innerst 00, TB) in the Stout Garden. Bright orange self.

Wanted, self-Cleaning Iris

by Bob Pries, Missouri

I headed to the Oklahoma 2007 convention with some trepidation. All across the country there had been disastrous late freezes in April that had destroyed bloom through much of the Midwest and Eastern USA. Thankfully, Oklahoma City was "OK." Or at least there was no lack of bloom. A different weather problem faced the convention, rain. Fortunately it did not let loose during garden tours, despite the clouds, and one would have assumed that the lack of harsh shadows from bright sunshine would have made it perfect for photos. But nature never seems to shed her blessings without a hitch. The high humidity prevented spent flowers from drying up. Instead there were huge blobs of dead flowers massed around the new fresh blooms.

I believe the convention handbook does not prohibit grooming. In fact, it doesn't address the subject at all. But it is commonly misunderstood that Irises should not be groomed of their spent flowers during convention. Presumably the idea is to be able to show bud count. Knowing the bud count should aid in judging the merits of each variety. The question then arises, what is the purpose of an Iris convention? Is it a grand test garden for evaluating Irises, or a magnificent show displaying the latest varieties? Perhaps both, but can these disparate purposes be reconciled?


If we want a grand display then grooming should be a part of the effort. I know it is a huge task for a large garden. But turn 400 visitors loose and I bet the job would be done in a few minutes. Of course at present, garden manners and ethics dictate that visitors not touch the flowers. But when we try to exhibit Irises at a show we try to make them look their best. Some beds on tour were public gardens. Shouldn't we wish to have the Iris looking their best? Shouldn't the host gardeners in their own gardens want the same?

If conventions are really only for judges to fill out their ballots, then I guess there is no need to clean away dead flowers. These people are already sold on Iris. They relish knowing how many flowers bloomed.

But perhaps there is an alternative. The standards and falls that made the pools of mush could be removed without removing the ovary. Any Iris judge worth his salt could still see how many blooms have

flowered and the repulsive necrotic matter could be eliminated, making the stalks and plants suitable for photos.

Some flowers groom themselves. Most people have heard of self-cleaning daylilies. Where in the Iris judges' handbook is this trait mentioned? Certainly if the goal is a better garden plant, then we should be watching for this trait. Some Iris species already self clean. *Iris flavissima* and *Iris domestica* curl their spent flowers into tidy tight spirals before they fall off. If we began paying attention, it is likely that we might discover a self-cleaning Iris in the Tall bearded varieties, or at least an inclination along this line that could be developed by our amazing hybridizers. I believe I saw some evidence of rudimentary spiraling in a few varieties. Certainly it would be nice to present to the world at our best "Iris show," our national convention, a nicely groomed planting.

Oklahoma put on a great show, and I am appreciative of their work. I have no doubt that they would have groomed the Irises if that is what was understood as acceptable. 

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Photography Challenges and Ideas in Convention Gardens

by Jerry Hoke, Kansas City, Kansas

With the improved quality and lower cost of digital cameras, I am seeing many more people taking photos than I did a few years ago and it is apparent that without the cost of film and processing, they are taking many, many more photos than in the past.

While photography can always be a challenge, photographing in a regional or national convention garden presents some unique additional challenges.

One of the most difficult aspects of taking photos in a convention garden is problems with the background. With a bus load(s) of people moving through the garden, it is hard not to get someone's foot or leg showing behind the iris of interest. While those not taking pictures are unaware of this problem, as a photographer I try to follow the Golden Rule (Do unto others ...). Knowing that I may show up as background in someone else's photos, I try to wear camouflage or dark green or brown slacks to be as unobtrusive as possible. How many times have you seen white shoes in your photographs? Or red slacks? (*Ed. Or Vince Lewonski's bright orange fashion statement this year.*)

The background problem can also be reduced via restricting the amount of background shown by using a longer lens. A longer focal length lens, or zoom lens set at a longer length, will have a narrower field of view and include a much narrower area of the background. Another trick I use is to carry a couple of pieces of dark green soft, wrinkle-free material about the size of a handkerchief. This can be placed over an offending plant marker from another clump, or it can be held between the subject and any background problem.

Another problem involves the controversial question of whether or not to deadhead spent blooms in a convention planting. Unless one is lucky enough to be able to photograph at the time of the very first blooms, there is bound to be some spent blossoms that show up in the image. These detract from the subject and lower the quality of the

image. This is not only a personal problem for those of us who wish to make the highest quality images, but these photos are taken back to our home areas and used in presentations to our iris clubs, garden clubs and possibly even other groups. These are also the images that are used in our AIS publications (the *Bulletin*, the website, section and regional publications and websites), which are seen by those outside our circle. These are the **IMAGES OF AIS**. They need to be the best images possible.

While I have heard that convention plantings should not be deadheaded so that one can make an accurate bud count, I have seen this handled differently over the years. At some conventions, the plantings were deadheaded, in others they were not, and in others the spent bloom was removed but the ovary was left, allowing a judge to make a bud count. The lack of deadheading in the OKC gardens this year was aggravated by the very wet weather. Instead of drying up, the spent blooms became a soggy rotting mass. These were not only very unattractive in both the garden and in any photos taken, but presented a health problem to the rest of the clump. They also often covered parts of a newly opening bloom, distorting it and making it completely unworthy of any photograph. The offending spent blossom can sometimes be hidden by the aforementioned green “handkerchief”, but I believe this could best be resolved for all those taking photos and those doing bud counts by removing the spent blossom, but leaving the ovary.

An additional problem for both the photographer and the judge (brought to my attention by a fellow photographer), is difficulty of identifying from which clump a bloom stalk comes. This can easily be remedied by using the recommended spacing for AIS convention gardens.

Wide beds and narrow aisles versus narrow beds and wide aisles was a point I heard about repeatedly this year. While visiting a small commercial garden at a regional convention this spring, I was told by the owners, “We are photographers, so we planted our iris in single rows so that photographers can get the best view of the flower in the best light”. Iris beds with three or four rows of iris make it very difficult to either photograph or judge the iris in the interior rows. When there are only two rows of iris in a bed with access to both sides, all clumps of iris can be viewed closely for careful judging, but even then photography may be difficult if the best view or the best light is from the opposite side. If the aisles between the beds are too narrow, a photographer with a tripod, or persons photographing toward both sides of the aisle, can effectively block the aisle for everyone else.

Even though the bloom in the Scott and April Bulling garden was a little less than in some of the other convention gardens, due to the hard

freeze, it was pointed out to me by two different persons that people were staying longer in their garden and not moving as quickly toward the refreshment area. Here the irises were planted in double rows with very wide aisles between, making it very easy to move and to view the iris.

I am certain there is a big difference between what makes an impressive display of color for a public viewing with a normal flow of people and what makes a good convention planting where bus loads of irisarians want to judge and/or photograph the iris at the same time. If the garden has the room, experience has convinced me that the iris should be a minimum of 24, if not 30 or 36 inches, apart and in single, or no more than double row beds with wide aisles. This spreading out of the iris also spreads out the people, allowing all to view, judge, and photograph the iris without crowding, making it a much more enjoyable experience. ❧

Ed. Jerry Hoke is a certified professional photographer who studied under Ansel Adams and has taught both high school and college courses in photography. He is also an AIS Garden/Exhibition Judge and plant/garden chairman for the 2009 AIS Convention scheduled for Kansas City.

Photo: Copeland



Ernie Henson & Becky Simon in OSU Garden.

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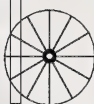
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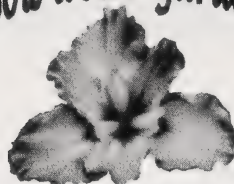
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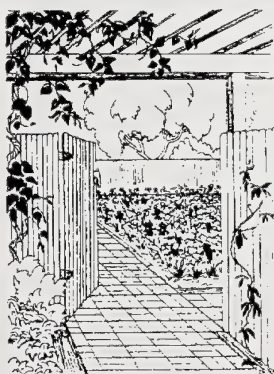
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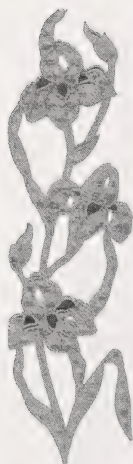


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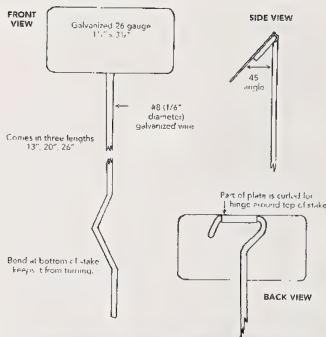


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The American Iris Society

Officers & Directors

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY IS A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION INCORPORATED February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the Iris.

Officers:

- President:* Jeanne Clay Plank, 9252 Hoopa Drive,
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Front Cover: Dykes Memorial Medal Winner: 'Queen's Circle' (Kerr)

Photo credit: Kerr

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and \$10.00 payable to AIS, to Mike Lowe.
- RVP Counselor:* Louise Carson, 5037 NW 24th Place, Oklahoma City, OK 73127-1715;
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Rita Gormley, 10606 Timber Ridge Street, Dubuque, IA 52001-8268;

Phone/fax: (563) 513-0504; Cell phone: (314) 606-9709; <aismemsec@earthlink.net>

Society for Siberian Irises:

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Nancy Price, 32009 S. Onda Way, Molalla, OR 97038; <flags@molalla.net>

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Kathie Kasperek, (same as above)

Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises:

Debby Cole, 7417 92nd Place SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040; <dcthree@juno.com>

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Rodney Barton, 3 Wolters St., Hickory Creek, TX 75065; <rbarton@hsc.unt.edu>

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS):

Paul W. Gossett, 129 East 33rd Place, Tulsa OK 74105-2542; <pwgossett@juno.com>

Judy Eckhoff, 7911 S. Yoder Road, Haven, KS 67543; <judye@msinter.net>

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Society for Louisiana Irises:

Paul W. Gossett, 129 East 33rd Place, Tulsa OK 74105-2542; <pwgossett@juno.com>

Richard Sloan, 118 East Walnut, Alma AR 72921; <rjsloan@mynewroads.com>

Section Membership Rates:

(Contact Section for overseas postage rates)

	<i>single annual</i>	<i>single triennial</i>	<i>dual annual</i>	<i>dual triennial</i>
Median Iris Society	\$8.00	20.00	9.00	23.00
Society for Siberian Iris	10.00	25.00	12.00	30.00
Spuria Iris Society	9.00	20.00	12.00	24.00
Society for Japanese Iris	5.00	12.50	6.00	15.50
Reblooming Iris Society	7.00	18.00	8.00	21.00
Society for PCNs	8.00	20.00	10.00	23.00
Species Iris Group (SIGNA)	12.00	32.00	12.00	32.00
Dwarf Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	10.00	24.00	12.00	30.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	13.50	33.50
Society for Louisiana Irises	13.00	32.00	16.00	44.00

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President's Message

Jeanne Clay Plank, California

Welcome to Kelly Norris, Guest Editor for the October 2007 AIS Bulletin. A former youth member, Kelly brings an impressive array of talents and experience to the editor's desk, joining a small group of former AIS youth members who also served as Bulletin Guest Editors: Phil Edinger, Hooker Nichols, and Phil Williams.

At the close of the AIS Board of Directors meeting this fall my three years as AIS President is over. I know the effectiveness of my administration is very much related to the work of the officers, department heads, directors, and committee chairmen with whom I was privileged to serve.

Important changes in personnel have occurred over the last three years.

Jay Hudson retired in November 2005 after seven years of service as AIS Treasurer. Jill Bonino moved from Secretary to Treasurer replacing Jay. Patricia Randall came on board as Secretary In January of 2006 replacing Jill. After nine years as AIS Librarian Keith McNames retired in 2006 and Tracy Plotner was appointed to replace him. Terry Aitken was appointed Bulletin Managing Editor in November 2006. Bruce Filardi resigned as Bulletin Editor effective April 2007, and Guest Editors were invited to edit the next four issues.

Other changes of note:

The AIS Board approved the use of four-word or 30-character names for iris registrations in line with the International Code nomenclature.

The seventh edition of the "Handbook for Judges and Show Officials" was released at the 2007 Oklahoma City spring convention. Roy Epperson compiled this large, important revision.

The society's financial stress due to elevated insurance premiums was eased after diligent pursuit led to a broker who dealt exclusively with garden clubs together with an underwriter better attuned to AIS needs.

The AIS Photo Contest, created, constructed and initiated in 2006 by Kitty Loberg, just completed its second year to continued

enthusiastic approval.

A Publications Committee production, "The Eric Nies Chronicles," was released in 2006 and is only available through the AIS Storefront.

The Scientific Advisory Committee, formed in 2005 and composed of eleven science-minded members, combined three former AIS committees – Scientific Bulletin Advisor, Scientific Committee, and Grants/Scientific Committee. The committee prepared a mission statement and guiding principals for its operation; developed an AIS Board-approved policy statement on iris conservation; reviewed three grant proposals for the AIS Foundation; and at the editor's request, reviewed and evaluated five scientific articles for the Bulletin.

Two successful Bulletin columns were added. "Section Happenings" covers section events and "Milestones" reports region and affiliate activities to the national audience. Jim Morris edits both.

An AIS youth protection guidelines policy was implemented. A general youth fund was created to help defray the costs of youth projects that do not fall into either of the two restricted youth funds.

During the last decade, and most certainly during the last three years, cyberspace has had as dynamic impact on all things AIS.

Electronics Services committee, chaired by John Jones, has created or provided new and improved services to department after department.

- Created: a "Join Button" to the AIS website using a PayPal payment process that accommodates all of the various types of memberships for AIS and all sections and automatically routes new membership information to the Membership Secretary.
- Provided: an AIS Information Central website page, a resource for public interest files such as board meeting minutes, financial reports, etc.
- Created: A process whereby board and committee reports become electronically available on demand and in advance of board meetings. This has significantly streamlined meeting deliberations.
- Created: Three board email lists that provide a practical way to discuss business and ideas, to confer privately, and to conduct an interim vote, plus procedures for conducting board business via email.
- Provided: a digital projector, purchased with Electronic Services generated funds and made available for rental.
- Created: a process to use the Electronic Services projector at board of directors' meetings to display motions as they are drafted and

modified. Since an electronic record is maintained of motions passed or failed, all motions are available through the website within a few days following the meeting.

- Provided: Electronic backup locations for the protection of Membership Secretary, Secretary and Treasurer records.
- Created: a subscription service for Irisregister.com, the online database of iris registrations. Irisregister.com has earned over \$8,700 in user fees since its inception.
- Working with the Membership Secretary's office: instituted an online payment for both AIS and section memberships, and developed an online membership expiration date lookup.
- Working with the Board of Counselors in 2007: created a RVP email list, an "electronic intercom" for RVPs to exchange ideas.
- Working with the Awards Committee: made possible the posting of AIS Award results on the AIS web page within hours after awards winners have been notified.

Furthermore:

Independent of Electronic Services work, all national affiliate records, judges training records, and publications such as "The Handbook for Judges and Show Officials" and "Basic Iris Culture" are maintained on computer. All iris registrations are computerized, as are the treasurer's books, Bulletin issue copy, library records, silent auction records and tally sheets, and the annual Symposium. All officers and directors have and use email, as do all section leaders and most RVPs.

Popular digital photography benefits both the AIS Calendar and the Bulletin. Quality photographs can be electronically transmitted from photographer to editor with comparative ease.

Affiliate-created web pages, linked to their region web page and/or the AIS web page, are making it easier to reach potential members with local information.

As with all organizations, the present improvements have evolved from work done by our predecessors. I take pride in all we have been able to accomplish together, and feel comfortable in the knowledge that we leave behind a solid foundation upon which our successors may continue to build. As I pass the gavel to E. Roy Epperson, I wish him the best of everything in the years ahead. 🌸

Officer Generic Email

by John Jones

Want to email one of the AIS officers?

The Editor of the *Bulletin*?

Need to advertise?

Not sure who the new officer is?


Don't know their personal email address?

Now it is easier than ever. The AIS provides special addresses for individuals serving certain AIS positions. The following email addresses will always reach the person currently holding the associated position:

AISPresident@irises.org	for the AIS President
AISFirstVP@irises.org	for the AIS First Vice President
AISSecondVP@irises.org	for the AIS Second Vice President

AISSecretary@irises.org	for the AIS General Secretary
AISTreasurer@irises.org	for the AIS Treasurer
AISRegistrar@irises.org	for the AIS Registrar
AISMemSec@irises.org	for the AIS Membership Secretary

AISStore@irises.org	for the AIS Storefront
AISAdvertising@irises.org	for <i>Bulletin</i> Advertising
Editor@irises.org	for the <i>Bulletin</i> Editor

When the person who fills a particular position changes, the AIS address is assigned to the new individual so email will always reach the right person. 

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Paw Paw Everlast Label Co.....	Page 17

Guest Editor's Message

Kelly D. Norris, Iowa

Editors always have a vision of what each issue will look like and what their publication stands for. Iris breeders share a similar outlook. Names like 'Cosmic Vision', 'Bold Vision', and 'Wild Vision' evidence a variety of forms that this outlook may assume. Yet to be shared with an iris in name, my outlook for this edition of the *Bulletin* is with a vision of promise.

I draw inspirations for my vision of promise from many sources. T.S. Eliot penned, arguably theological in nature, "In our end is our beginning."

In this season of autumnal glory we honor such a clause. The end of one gardening season stands at the threshold of another, filled with promises of betterment and surpassing yields. Most would agree that the 2007 gardening season was at best a struggle. Freezes and flooding, observed by attendees at the MIS Prairie Gold convention in Lincoln, NE, were but a few of nature's onslaughts across the country these past months.

A second source of vision is Tennyson's colloquial parable "To strive, to seek, to find", a promising mantra for iris collectors constantly in search of the latest innovation and the newest plant for our gardens. My third font of vision is from early 20th century Iowa horticulturist J.F. Wagner's playful sermocination that "Flowers knew how to preach divinity before man knew how to dissect and botanize them, and they are preaching divinity still; the best and sweetest sermons ever heard."

These three parables commune around the same guiding principle, the same principle I hope the *Bulletin* can assume in the near future: to hold forth with visionary promise. It is no secret that organizations of our kind find themselves in a precarious position in the 21st century. Membership is declining, and we are constantly surrounded by a culture that craves information and expects progress. Gardening, as we all know, is at no exception. Yet lend an ear to the gossip of publishing and you'll hear that the feeling in the corporate realm is that gardening isn't saleable or attractive anymore. Rubbish! Call away these black-thumbed bemoaners and you will find that vision and innovation are in the offing to challenge the trends. Our *Bulletin* is our flagship for just

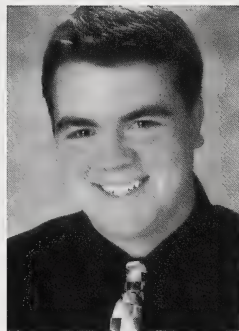



Photo: Mark Jewell

such a challenge.

The beauty of flowers which Wagner found joy in is the ethos of why I garden as well, something I'm sure most of us have in common. It has been my goal when assembling this issue to till that joy into each page. Photos of light-hearted exchanges in Lincoln, NE and toothsome new cultivars will delight the aesthetic. New cultivars, new ideas, historical essays, titillating discourses, and the joy of people doing something they love are all topics that earned coverage in this issue. My sincere thanks are extended to the AIS Board for affording me this honor and also to the faithful, ever-supportive legions that wrote for, photographed for, emailed about, and coordinated yet another issue of the Bulletin. Holding T.S. Eliot to full disclosure, I sincerely hope that the end of this note is the beginning of a rewarding read for you and whoever you wish to share your Bulletin with this October. 

A note from the AIS Library

Please keep the library in mind when you are ready to discard books, iris materials, or awards. Clubs and regions should not forget to send the library your newsletters (two copies would be preferred). Every week we get requests for copies of materials from past publications. The library still does not have a complete set of AIS Bulletins especially of the early editions. Your help is needed in this area.

This has been an exciting year for the library. We have been fortunate to have received many collections of catalogs, books, and awards from several donations. The biggest collection by far was the books and items from the Ben Hager & Sid DeBose estate. But we have also collected materials from the estate of Walter & Audrey Machulack, Awards of Dr. Rudolph Kleinsorge, Color plate artwork (20" X 27") of the irid plant species of Italy by Anne Eldredge Maury and edited by Maretta Colasante, and various donations of AIS Bulletins. Thank you everyone for your kind donations.

Tracy Plotner
AIS Library

Youth Views

By Cheryl Deaton, California

As I am writing this, the temperature outside averages in the upper 90's during the day, so working in my garden is limited to the early morning hours. I've just started to receive my new irises, but I haven't made a space for them in my garden yet, so I've got to get busy! School starts here is less than a month – mid August for most of the elementary schools. Where does the time go? I've been busy working on the Summer/Fall issue of *The Iris Fan*. This year's coloring contest picture was sent in by Chris Raymond of Ellisville, Missouri. The deadline for the coloring contest was September 30, 2007, so I hope you've sent in your entries already! If you have a picture of an iris that would make a good coloring contest picture, send it to me and I just might pick it for next year's contest! Clarke Cosgrove nominations will need to be sent in by the January 31, 2008 deadline for consideration. Don't forget! More information will come later.

Ackerman Essay Contest Winners

The 2007 Ackerman Essay topic was "What I Like Most About Irises?" I announced the winners at the AIS National Convention in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and here are their winning entries:

Kameron Flowers, Dyersburg, TN age 15

What do I like most about irises? I didn't have to ponder this question at all. I know some people enjoy the sight of watching beautiful irises grow in the springtime, others may love the different shapes and colors that bloom. But what I love most about irises is the beauty, the smells, and the different variety of the bearded irises.

The beauty is one of my favorite assets of the bearded iris. When I see fields of irises I always think God helped these to grow to make the world a more beautiful place. After a long dark and cold winter, he is sending a sign of renewed life once again. The color and the size are very important to the beauty. The color pulls me in to examine the whole part of the iris bloom and the size of both the flower and the stalk has to be just right to look beautiful and be in proportion. The colors range from the most muted tones to the brightest. One iris may be solid in color, like Beverly Sills, a nice pink, while the next may hold such

contrast as Blatant, with its yellow standards and maroon falls.

While noticing the look of the iris, the next thing that hits me is often the smell of the flower itself. Every iris tends to smell a little bit different than the next. One may be sweet while the next has a strong smell, and then the next one may smell musky. I love to smell the irises when they first bloom. The many fragrances smell so good mixed together and drifting on the spring breeze.

Last but certainly not least is the variety of the irises. There are many different sizes and shapes in the bearded iris family. At the very beginning of spring, the SDBs begin to show color in the gardens. 'Boo', the baby of the garden is often the first to bloom. Just when you think you have seen the last of the irises, the middle "children" start to show off. The IBs begin to unfurl on their stalks. Irises like '**Concertina**' (Sutton 00) and '**Candy Rock**' (Sutton 00) begin to make their presence known in the garden. While the IBs are opening, the big brothers and sisters are preparing to take over center stage. The TBs will follow the IBs and really show off their size and colors. TBs like '**Ride the Tiger**' (Lauer 02) and '**Night Ruler**' (Schreiner 90). They will close the season with their beauty and grace. The different varieties make irises very unique and unlike any other flower that grows in my gardens.

In conclusion, everyone can find something that they could love about irises. Opinions aren't always going to be the same, but now you know that I find the smell, color and the different sizes irresistible.

Sarah Green, Lincoln, NE age 10

What I like best about irises is the variety that comes with growing the iris. When I talk about "variety", I mean variety in color, shape, types and heights!

The iris is known as the "rainbow" flower because it comes in so many colors! I like all of the colors of the rainbow that the iris comes in! My favorite colors of iris are purple, pink, orange, yellow, white, red, black, blue, brown, and broken colored! Some of my favorite irises are '**Indian Art**' (Jones 05, SDB), '**Hook**' (Johnson 01, TB), '**Autumn Years**' (Ensminger 96, TB), '**Sarah's Laughter**' (Miller



Cheryl Deaton and Sarah Green

Photo: Norris

88, TB), ‘**Tiger Honey**’ (Kasperek 94, TB), ‘**Spacelab**’ (Saxton 83, TB), ‘**Batik**’ (Ensminger 86, BB), ‘**Sky Rain**’ (Magee 00, TB), ‘**Isn’t This Something**’ (Ensminger 93, TB), ‘**Goldkist**’ (Black 93, TB), ‘**Celebration Song**’ (Schreiner 93, TB), ‘**Habit**’ (Black 99, TB), ‘**Copatonic**’ (Blyth 94/95, TB), ‘**What Again**’ (Ensminger 91, SDB), and ‘**Polish Princess**’ (Cadd 99, TB). Even the leaves of the iris plant can be striped with yellow or white!

Shapes of flowers also add variety to the iris! Space age irises have spoons, horns and flounces! While older irises have long slender falls, the newer iris have wide ruffled and laced falls, with some that really smell GREAT!

Different types of iris also give us variety! By visiting gardens and looking through catalogs, I have found so many types of iris to choose from! Types of iris include Japanese, Siberians, Arilbreds, California, Louisiana, Spuria, and the bearded irises.

I like the variety in both short and tall iris! Having a variety of heights also makes growing iris FUN! My favorite irises are the tall bearded, but there are many shorter varieties of SDBs, MTBs, IBs, and BBs to choose from.

With so much variety in irises, it’s easy to catch the “iris virus” and keep wishing for more! Variety is what I like best about irises!


Thank you to all the youth members who entered the essay contest. I know it was difficult for the judges to choose the winners. Isn't it interesting that both winning entries selected variety as what they liked best?

Clarke Cosgrove Nominations Needed

Once again, it is time to begin thinking about nominating a deserving AIS youth member for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Deadline is January 31, 2008, but don’t wait that long to send in your nominations! Do you know a deserving young person who would qualify for this award? ANY AIS MEMBER can nominate ANY AIS YOUTH MEMBER for this award using the following guidelines:

- Grows a fine iris garden and shows an interest in the various iris classes and sizes
- Visits local iris gardens at bloom time
- Is a contributing member of a club, attending meetings and other iris activities
- Competes enthusiastically at shows
- Promotes irises and/or the AIS to others and signs up new AIS members
- Experiments with irises

- Attends regional and/or national tours
- Helps an iris organization through a committee or activity
- Writes for a local, regional and/or national iris publication
- Demonstrates leadership skills
- Is studying to become an AIS judge
- Actively hybridizes irises

Youth members do not need to participate in ALL of the above activities to be nominated for the Clarke Cosgrove Award. Complete your nomination by adding the youth member's personal attributes, such as membership in other organizations, school activities and personal observations. Send your nomination to Cheryl Deaton, 27218 Walnut Springs Avenue, Canyon Country, CA 91351-3314 or e-mail your nomination to region15kids@hotmail.com as an attachment. Remember, the deadline is January 31, 2008. Please try to limit your nomination to two pages. The identities and locations of the nominees will be concealed before being sent to a carefully selected panel of judges. The winner will receive a trophy and cash prize presented at the AIS National Convention in Austin, Texas. Take a moment to think about the young AIS members you've met recently and the contributions they've made to make the American Iris Society a better organization. These youth are the future of AIS. Send in a nomination or two today! 

Errata

As with all human-guided enterprises, mistakes are bound to occur. The *Bulletin* staff acknowledges the following errata, in the July issue with apologies, thanks to the keen eyes of observant readers like you.

On page 27, the number 14 iris should be named '**Lucky Loo**' (Ernst 05, TB) rather than the printed 'Lucky Lou'.

The irises pictured on the spread of the Bulling Garden on pages 34-35 should be clockwise from upper left, '**Prague**' (T. Johnson 05, TB), '**Klondike Melt**' (F. McVicker 07, TB), and '**Musician**' (Keppel 04, TB).

'**Daintree**' (Taylor 99/00), pictured on page 58 of the July issue, did not win the Australian Dykes Medal as printed but rather the Iris Society of Australia (ISA) Medal; correctly stated in the page 95 narrative. The 2006 Australian Dykes Medal winner was '**Second Option**' (Grosvenor 99/00).


2008 Silent Auction

AIS National Convention, Austin, TX

We are holding the Silent Auction again at the AIS Convention Austin, TX! That means we need your contributions to ensure the success that we have enjoyed in the past years.

The Silent Auction has become a popular part of our conventions and it is a fun way to raise funds for the support of AIS. Many people have iris treasures they could donate and it is a great way for hybridizers to get their new introductions out to different parts of the country. We are looking for iris artifacts, iris books and new or recent iris introductions. However, if you would like to donate any other irises that are rare or unusual, that would work fine also. Just drop us a note and let us know what you have.

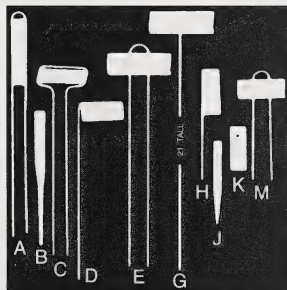
This year's convention is scheduled for April 14-19, 2008 so please let us know what you can donate no later than March 20, 2008 so we can prepare the bid sheets. Send a short note to our address below, e-mail us or call. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Milestones

Compiled by Jim Morris, Missouri

When an individual or a society contacts a writer or editor with questions or, better yet, an information submittal, it is always encouraging. It is evidence that someone out there in the audience is reading the printed material.

Janet Smith of the Fresno Iris Society (CA) provided the following information on her society's current anniversary.

Fresno Iris Society Celebrates 40th Anniversary

In the Spring of 1967, John and Fran Weiler planned an informal afternoon get-together at their home garden for people who liked irises. John was a biology professor, teaching botany at Fresno State, and a hybridizer of reblooming irises striving to increase more pronounced ruffles on white, cream, blue and yellow irises. By that time he had been an AIS member for 19 years, since 1948. The day of the meeting 90 varieties of tall bearded irises were in bloom in the Weiler garden. As the summer of 1967 waned and the promise of cooler weather approached, the time seemed right for further discussion about forming a local iris society. There was a lot of interest at the time but no local club where iris fanciers could meet. So, on November 7, 1967 formation of the society became official with 29 members covering Fresno, Madera and Mariposa Counties. **'Wild Ginger'** (Gibson 62, TB) was the first door prize. John Weiler recently said, "I never envisioned that the society would have lasted as long as it has." Congratulations to the Fresno Iris Society.

An unusual milestone occurred on December 2, 2006 when the Albuquerque Aril Society and the New Mexico Iris Society merged into the new Albuquerque Aril & Iris Society. This merger brought members from both groups into a new cohesive unit. This new group will be sponsoring the Aril and Median Trek April 27-30, 2008 in Albuquerque.

The recent horrific bridge collapse on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, MN brought to mind that 175 years ago the source of the Mississippi was located by Henry Schoolcraft, an explorer and ethnologist. In July of 1832 he found the headwaters in the Minnesota lake Itasca, a contraction of *veritas* and *caput* (true head).

The American Iris Society announced the AIS Awards for 2007 on its website www.irises.org on July 18, 2007. Unfortunately two of the 2007 medal winners, Hugh Thurman and Lois Belardi, recently passed away. Lois died before her award, Hugh after, so he was aware of and able to savor the honor.

Hugh Bradley Thurman (January 26, 1934 – July 31, 2007)

Region 7 incumbent RVP Hugh Thurman died of a heart attack July 31, 2007 in Frankfort, Kentucky. Thurman, 73, was a pharmacist for many years. He was a member of the Louisville Area Iris Society, the Bluegrass Iris Society, the Median Iris Society, and was a past president of the Dwarf Iris Society. As an iris hybridizer, he and wife Mary had introduced fourteen irises; two TBs, one MDB, nine SDBs and two MTBs. Their first introductions were in 1996 via their Kickapoo Garden listing. His '**Madam President**' (01, MTB) won the 2007 Williamson-White Medal. He was awarded the Region 7 Hybridizer of Repute Award in 2001. Thurman is survived by his wife Mary Carolyn (Mitchell) Thurman; son, Clay Thurman; brother-in-law, Bill Mitchell; and a host of gardening friends.

Lois M. Belardi (February 21, 1918 – March 25, 2007)

Belardi, 89, of Santa Cruz, CA, Region 14, was a hybridizer of *Californicae*, or Pacific Coast Irises. She introduced twelve PCIs from 1987-2004 via Joe Ghio's Bay View Gardens. '**Sea Gal**' (94) won the Sidney B. Mitchell Medal in 2002 and '**Pacific Mist**' (99) won it in 2007. Belardi was an accomplished gardener who grew a wide variety of irises, orchids, and other flowers. Her great skill as an iris exhibitor is evidenced by how often her name appears on most trophies in the Monterey Bay Iris Society and other area iris societies. Almost a charter member of MBIS, she joined them at their first iris show in 1976. She was MBIS show chairman many times and often won either the Silver Medal (most blue ribbons) or the runner-up Bronze Medal.

Henry W. Wulf (January 10, 1924 – October 1, 2006)

Born in Falls City, Nebraska, Henry W. Wulf, 82, died at home in Lincoln, NE. A U.S. Navy veteran of WWII, Henry entered the University of Nebraska following the war. He graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1953. He and Opal M. Taylor were married in 1951. Henry held various engineering positions and was designated the State Airport Engineer in 1982 in charge of the Engineering Division. Wulf retired in 1990 after 30 years of service. He also worked with

FEMA from 1992-1998. Henry served the Lincoln Iris Society as both president and treasurer for several years. He and Opal co-chaired the 1990 AIS Convention. He served Region 21 in many capacities including on the Board of Directors. He was an AIS Judge and he and Opal hosted many local and regional garden tours of their Wulf's Backachers garden. They both received the Region 21 Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor in their region. They grew median irises to perfection, especially Opal's MTBs.

Amanda Louise Bellagamba (March 17, 1912 – July 15, 2007)

Louise Bellagamba, 95, was the matriarch of the Greater St. Louis Iris Society in Region 18. Raised in Dover, Tennessee, her parents moved the family to St. Louis, Missouri in the 1930s. She worked for a dress manufacturer and became a proficient seamstress. In 1939 Louise Durrwachter married August (Gus) Bellagamba. While raising their family of five children (David and two sets of twins – Janet and Jack, and Andrea and Angela) she and Gus also raised cows, chickens, vegetables and flowers. She could often be found sewing wedding dresses and her daughters' prom dresses. She started a local flower club and gradually got into daffodils, irises and daylilies. Early on she became a master flower designer making arrangements for her church and later for iris and daylily shows.

She made her first hybridizing crosses in 1958 and her first introduction in 1963 was **'Big Deal'**, an orchid tall bearded iris with a yellow beard. In 49 years of hybridizing she selectively introduced only 29 irises. They included twelve TBs, nine Siberians, four SDBs, two BBs, one flat-top TB novelty (**'Topless Dancer'**, 87), and one Arilbred median (**'Dollfoot'**, 78). To date her irises have won twelve AIS Honorable Mentions and one Award of Merit for **'Rill'** (92, SIB, HM 96, AM 98). She was proudest of **'An-Jan'** (79, TB). This was named for her three daughters and came about because she was always calling for them such as, "Andrea, Angela, I mean Janet, An, Jan, oh An-Jan!" The nickname stuck. **'An-Jan'** won the Silver Medal (Medaglia D'Argento Dell'Ente Provinciale Turismo Di Firenze) for second place in Florence, Italy in 1982. It also won a special award (Coppa Alba Balbi Valier) for the best pink in this international iris competition.

Louise was an AIS Life Member, a Master Judge and a past club president. Her first AIS Convention was in Milwaukee in 1969. Her Bella Vista Gardens were on tour during the 1981 Convention in St. Louis for which she was the guest iris chairman. The Greater St. Louis Iris Society established the Louise Bellagamba Award for Best Design

at their regular midseason iris show. The award began in 1982 to honor Louise who had been an extraordinary flower arranger/designer, doing it both professionally and for fun. And of course she won her name-sake award the first year it was established!

Robert “Rob” Stetson (1945 – July 12, 2007)

Rob, age 62, was a Region 20 Colorado native. He graduated from South Denver High School and served with the U.S. Army in Viet Nam and Europe. He was a well-known member of Denver’s music community. He played guitar in several professional venues in Denver, including the “Exodus.” Stetson was a longtime member of AIS and the Aril Society International. He registered seven TBs and two arilbreds, introducing ‘Tcha’Deetch’ (03, AB, OGB) which won an HM in 2007, and ‘H. C. Stetson’ (03, TB), a pale pink named for his grandfather, which won the Premio Firenze (first place Gold Florin) in 2001 in Italy.

Editor’s Note: Adele Lawyer of Region 14 passed away as we went to press. An obituary will be printed in the January AIS *Bulletin*. ❧

New Feature!

The Bulletin staff cordially invites all members to submit images of their garden for potential inclusion in a future issue of the AIS Bulletin. We want to see how your irises grow and what you are growing them with. The photo should be of appropriate composition to be considered a landscape shot suitable of placement in the inside rear of the issue. Send images to Terry Aitken, Managing Editor (contact information on page 1).

Section Happenings

By Jim Morris, Section Liaison Consultant, Missouri

"The voluntary hobby society is a part of the genius of the democratic people"

—Dr. William G. McGarvey, 1962

With the chartering of the various Sections of the American Iris Society beginning with the Median Iris Society in 1960, AIS proved to be prophetic. The leaders of AIS at the time were very wise allowing for a superior organization with a structure that uniquely allows its special interest groups to function separately and in concert with the parent. Even though both the Sections and the Cooperating Societies struggle at times to find volunteers to perform their many functions, they do provide a means of specialized information sharing, communication of ideas and development of the genus.

When one reviews the output of our special interest groups it is both awesome and inspiring. Whether one is a famous hybridizer, an officer/committee member or just a member, there should be something for all interests. No other plant society, be it rose, hosta, orchid or whatever, has this diversity. Just think for a moment: aril/arilbred, spuria, Siberian, Japanese, median bearded, tall bearded, species/species crosses, Pacific Coast natives/hybrids, miniature dwarf bearded, rebloomers, Louisiana, and historic. It's totally awesome! And usually leadership exhibited within the special interest groups provides a training ground for experience that is later useful for the parent organization.

I keep a rather extensive library of iris publications and other iris related stuff. It is always useful to me in my research for various publications to which I contribute articles. I sometimes appreciate some publication content after later review and contemplation. Such was the case when I just re-reviewed Valerie Easton's SPCNI *Almanac* Spring 2006 article *Plant Life Clippings – There's Gold in These Paintings*. She discusses, and Editor Jody Nolin displays, the botanical art of artist Jean Emmons of Vashon, WA. Emmons was honored with a gold medal at the 2005 Royal Horticultural Society exhibit in Birmingham, England. The RHS has always had a huge appreciation for botanical art going back to the days of Peter Barr, W.J. Caparne and beyond. Caparne was awarded the 1930 RHS Silver Grenfell Medal for his many botanical painting exhibits. Emmons describes the big international show as,

“The Olympics of botanical art.”

Writer Easton reports that artist Emmons grew an assortment of Pacific Coast hybrid irises for four years, painting them as they came into bloom. Eight of her life-size paintings were exhibited along with the work of 80 other selected artists from around the world. The British judges questioned the near-turquoise blue of our native ‘**Magic Sea**’ (Belardi 00), wondering if perhaps Jean had exaggerated its unique coloration. An expert was called in from the BBC’s “Gardeners’ World” television show who confirmed the vivid blue coloration as an accurate depiction of the real thing. “It was the best morning of my life,” says Emmons, who brought home not only the gold but a deal for the RHS Lindley Library to buy four of her paintings for its permanent collection. I’ve never used the word awesome twice before, and especially thrice, in one article but it is appropriate for the botanical art of Jean Emmons. Her painting of the black CA ‘**Night Gown**’ (Ghio 01) is truly special.

The guest editors of the AIS *Bulletin* have extended the invitation to all the Sections and Cooperating Societies for feature articles about their organization and favorite flowers. It is hoped that their officers will accept this invitation in this and future issues. Please promote yourselves!

Future Section Conventions

It is our intention to list the future mini-conventions in this column on a continuing basis. We would like to promote all iris interests in a harmonious and efficient manner so if you are planning a future event, please coordinate it with me as the AIS Board’s representative. We would like to avoid conflicts in the same year with other Section’s interests.

Aril Society International

Albuquerque Aril & Iris Society, “Aril and Median Trek”

April 27 – April 30, 2008, Albuquerque, NM

Society for Japanese Irises

June 2008, Kalamazoo, MI

Siberian/Species

June 2009, Twin Cities Area, MN

Historic Iris Preservation Society “HIPS Happening”

May 17, 2009, Overland Park, KS

(immediately following the AIS National Convention in Kansas City)

Spuria Iris Society

June 2010, Portland, OR 

Donations to AIS

May 15, 2007 – August 15, 2007

compiled by Donna James, Donations Secretary

Memory Of:	Fund Code
Jack Norrich (IN)	
Charles & Rosemarie Rumbaugh (IN)	GYF
Roger & Linda Miller (IN)	Gen
Steve Davis (CA)	
Inland Region Iris Society (CA)	R&S
Ray Coffey (NE)	
Lincoln Iris Society (NE)	R&S
Neal Jennings (TX)	
Texoma Iris Society (TX)	LIB
Ed Hill (CA)	
San Diego Imperial Counties Iris Society INC (CA)	Gen
Betsy Conklin (PA)	
Ronald & Nancy Thoman (PA)	Gen
Deward C. Anderson (DC)	
Region 12 AIS (UT)	R&S
Olive Langdon (AL)	
Golden Wings Iris Society (MS)	Library
Louise Bellagamba (MO)	
Bob Brooks (HI)	Gen
O'Fallon Iris Society (MO)	Gen
Bennett Jones (OR)	CPF
Irv & Nancy Pocklington (IL)	Gen
Mrs. Harley Briscoe (IL)	
Southern Illinois Iris Society (IL)	GYF
Orville & Luella Dickhaut (IL)	GYF
Hugh Thurman (KY)	
Philip Schaffer (OH)	CPF
Robert Stetson (CO)	
Region 20 (CO)	R&S

***Erratum: Paul Gossett's donation to the General Fund was made in memory of Mrs. Alva (Rilla) J. Hickerson (OK), not Alva J. Hickerson (OK) as printed on page 106 of the July issue.*

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CIP- YF = Classroom Iris Project – Youth Fund

G = General Funds

G/I = General Funds Insurance Defrayment

GYF = General Youth Fund

LIB = Library Fund


R&S = Research & Scholarship

How to Make your Donation to One of the AIS Funds

Donations to AIS Fund Accounts should be made payable to: AIS or the American Iris Society.

Mail to Donna James, 887 County Route 3, Hannibal, NY 13074-2356; (315) 598-3346; ron2don@alltel.net

Clearly identify on a separate piece of paper:

1. The recipient of the memorial or honor.
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3. The name of person, persons, or organization donation.
4. The address of person (s) to notify that a donation has been made. 

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden



BATTLESTAR ATLANTIS (Aitken '08) 42", 3 branches plus terminal with double sockets, a vigorous grower and a good clumper, large pure white flowers including beards, horns, spoons or flounces, great substance and color saturation..

This ad is an experiment in advertising. Why run color on a pure white iris?

Over the years, I have only been mildly interested in "spaceage" irises. Early efforts at hybridizing were usually associated with very narrow falls and lots of haft marks. Without the novelty protrusions, you ended up with a very ordinary iris. (See "ordinary" elsewhere in this issue.) Great strides have been made by several hybridizers to upgrade spaceagers to competitive modern standards. The time seems right for this plant. Overlapping falls with no haft marks, good substance and great vigor make this plant an acceptable introduction with or without the horns. Like many spaceagers, the horns are unstable. One year, you get spoons, the next may be fishing rod-like horns and sometimes flounces, sometimes all on the same flower! Each year is a stellar adventure.

Sdlg #00T79: Got Milk x (Stellar Lights sibling x unknown (probably Skyhooks)) \$50.00

See catalog and website for many more introductions in March.

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HC (High Commendation) Awards For 2007

E. Roy Epperson, Awards Chair, North Carolina

The HC Award is restricted to non-introduced irises only. An iris may be registered and named, but must not have been introduced into commerce.

192 individual seedlings under number or name received 1 or more votes for the HC award. The seven listed below received the minimum five (5) votes required.

Type	Seedling	Originator	Region	Votes
TB	89-7C	Robert Annand	14	11
TB	B2 2006	Jim Begley	14	6
TB	93 95-30A2	Lynn Markham	1	5
TB	KK 94-1	Schreiners	13	5
TB	MM 254-1	Schreiners	13	6
TB	PD.CBS.10.01	Hugh Stout	22	6
SIB	97B1B27	Robert Hollingworth	6	7

AIS Awards 2007

*Number of votes listed first

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

(Total votes cast = 469)

110 QUEEN'S CIRCLE (Frederick Kerr)

Runners-up:

46 STARWOMAN IB (Marky D. Smith)

37 GOLDEN PANTHER (Richard Tasco)

JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL (TB)

(Total votes cast = 1249)

75 STARRING (Joseph Ghio)

63 RING AROUND ROSIE (Richard Ernst)

54 DAUGHTER OF STARS (Donald Spoon)

Runners-up:

52 HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS (Roger Duncan)

49 ITALIAN ICE (A. & D. Cadd)

44 MY GINNY (Donald Spoon)

KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB)

(Total votes cast = 280)

101 GO FOR BOLD (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

66 TEAPOT TEMPEST (Lynn Markham)

59 CLASSIC NAVY (Carol Lankow)

HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

(Total votes cast = 335)

156 DELIRIUM (Marky D. Smith)

Runners-up:

73 MING (Marky D. Smith)

55 MISS MAUVE (Richard Tasco)

WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL (MTB)

(Total votes cast = 310)

96 MADAM PRESIDENT (Hugh Thurman)

Runners-up:

84 SOMEWHAT QUIRKY (Riley Probst)

60 YELLOW FLIRT (Kenneth Fisher)

COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)

(Total votes cast = 300)

38 MUSIC (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

35 NEUTRON (Thomas Johnson)

34 JUST A CROC (Brad Kasperek)

CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL (MDB)

(Total votes cast = 206)

61 WISE (Thomas Johnson)

Runners-up:

60 YAK ATTACK (Brad Kasperek)

32 TINGLE (Paul Black)

CLARENCE G. WHITE MEDAL (AR & AB)

(Pure aril and arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

(Total votes cast = 117)

49 OMAR'S EYE (Carl Boswell)

Rrunner-up:

39 BYZANTINE ART (Lowell Baumunk)

WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL (AB)

(Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

(Total votes cast = 98)

50 HAKUNA MATATA (A. & D. Cadd)

Rrunner-up:

23 DESERT SURPRISE (Lin Flanagan)

FOUNDERS OF SIGMA MEDAL (SPEC)

(Total votes cast = 109)

72 BAYOU BANDIT (Jeff Weeks by Farron Campbell)

Rrunner-up:37 SYLVANSHINE (Clarence Mahan &
Carol Warner)**RANDOLPH-PERRY MEDAL (SPEC-X)**

(Total votes cast = 139)

67 SIBTOSA PRINCESS (Tomas Tamberg)

Rrunner-up:

58 ALPHA GNU (Brad Kasperek)

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL (CA)

(Total votes cast = 48)

8 PACIFIC MISS (Lois Belardi)

Rrunner-up:

7 MENDOCINO BLUE (Robert & Janet Canning)

DEBAILLON MEDAL (LA)

(Total votes cast = 166)

64 MY FRIEND DICK

(Richard Butler by M.D. Faith)

Runners-up:

26 WHISTLING DIXIE (Mary Dunn)

22 JAZZ HOT (Heather Pryor)

MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB)

(Total votes cast = 295)

93 SHIPS ARE SAILING (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

Runners-up:

58 SOMEBODY LOVES ME (Robert Hollingworth)

50 CARMEN JEANNE (Calvin Helsley)

ERIC NIES MEDAL (SPU)

(Total votes cast = 155)

43 MISSOURI ORANGE (O.D. Niswonger)

Runners-up:

42 MISSOURI MOONLIGHT (O.D. Niswonger)

41 ELFIN SUNSHINE (B. Charles Jenkins)

PAYNE MEDAL (JI)

(Total votes cast = 121)

49 DIRIGO PINK MILESTONE (John White)

Runners-up:

32 LITTLE BOW PINK (Donald Delmez)

24 RASPBERRY CANDY (Robert Bauer &
John Coble)**WALTHER CUP**

(Most HM votes in any category)

145 FLORENTINE SILK TB (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

137 PLUM QUIRKY MTB (Riley Probst)

112 DIVIDING LINE MTB (Charles Bunnell)

AWARD OF MERIT**TALL BEARDED**

197 PAUL BLACK (Thomas Johnson)

140 DRAMA QUEEN (Keith Keppel)

113 SLOVAK PRINCE (Anton Mego)

105 CRACKLING CALDERA (J. T. Aitken)

76 VENETIAN GLASS (Keith Keppel)

62 TELEPATHY (Keith Keppel)

59 FIRST WAVE (Richard Tasco)

- 57 ALPENVIEW (Keith Keppel)
- 49 SOLAR FIRE (Richard Tasco)
- 46 PARIS FASHION (Keith Keppel)
- 45 ABIQUA FALLS (Schreiner)
- 45 JUKE BOX HERO (Larry Lauer)
- 44 INSIDE TRACK (Keith Keppel)
- 44 PRESBY'S CROWN JEWEL (Schreiner)
- 44 SPICE LORD (Barry Blyth)
- 43 BADLANDS (Schreiner)
- 43 LADY OF LEONESS (Donald Spoon)
- 42 MIAH JANE (Tom Parkhill)
- 42 CRANBERRY SAUCE (Paul Black)
- 41 CODE RED (J. T. Aitken)
- 41 DOROTHY DEVENPORT (Hooker Nichols)
- 40 CARL AND SISSY (Paul Black)
- 40 DUNCAN'S SMILING EYES (Larry Lauer)

Runners-up:

- 38 BOLD ENCOUNTER (Paul Black)
- 38 FOREIGN LEGION (Keith Keppel)
- 37 DEVIL DAVID (A. & D. Cadd)
- 37 GAME PLAN (Keith Keppel)
- 37 LOVELY SENORITA (Schreiner)
- 37 SAMBUCA (Larry Johnson)
- 37 VAPOR (Joseph Ghio)

BORDER BEARDED

- 49 HEART OF AFRICA (Brad Kasperek)
- 46 CONGO BONGO (Brad Kasperek)

Runners-up:

- 45 BORDER GUARD (Joseph Ghio)
- 38 WAITING FOR OCTOBER (Larry Lauer)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 46 JUMP START (Keith Keppel)
- 44 DUDE (Keith Keppel)

Runners-up:

- 41 BOLD STATEMENT (Richard Tasco)
- 40 HARMONIUM (Marky D. Smith)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 81 DANCING LILACS (Stephanie Markham)
- 60 CONNECT THE DOTS (Lynda Miller)

Runners-up:

- 59 PUG (Eugene Kalkwarf)
- 57 LARRY'S GIRL (Stephanie Markham)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

- 67 FIRES OF FIJI (Paul Black)
- 64 ULTIMATE (Thomas Johnson)
- 39 BOURGEOIS (Paul Black)
- 35 DANCING BUNNIES (Paul Black)
- 33 BALLISTIC (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 29 NAVY RUFFLES (Thomas Johnson)
- 28 SABRINA'S SONG (A. & D. Willott)
- 28 TICKETY BOO (O.D. Niswonger)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 43 WATERMARK (A. & D. Willott)
- 40 CHEMISTRY (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 37 CROWN OF SNOW (A. & D. Willott)
- 36 BLUE ASH (A. & D. Willott)

ARILBRED (Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

- 16 KARAMEL PIZAZZ (D. L. Shepard)
- 14 ULALENA (George Sutton)

Runner-up:

- 13 FLAMBOYANT AFFAIR (Sharon McAllister)

ARIL AND ARILBRED (Pure aril and arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

- 32 KALIFA'S CAPE (Robert Annand)
- 31 PINK SERAPH (Howard & Irene Shockey)

Runner-up:

- 30 MASADA'S GLORY (James Whitely)

SPECIES

- 64 VERSICLE (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
- 34 FOXCROFT FULL MOON (Katharine Steele)

Runner-up:

- 29 CROUCHING TIGER (Eric & Bob Tankesley-Clarke)

INTER-SPECIES CROSS

- 87 ALLY OOPS (Dana Borglum)
- 85 DOLCE (Paul Black)

Runners-up:

- 34 WILD PETTICOATS (Lynn Markham)
- 32 ROY'S LINES (J. T. Aitken)

CALIFORNICAE

- 12 STAR OF WONDER (Joseph Ghio)
- 8 MOCHA MELODY (Alphild Lind)

Runners-up:

- 7 DRIP DROP (Joseph Ghio)
- 6 MAGIC SEA (Lois Belardi)

LOUISIANA

- 41 HENRY ROWLAN (M. D. Faith)
- 28 ANN FAITH (M. D. Faith)

Runner-up:

- 25 RASPBERRY RILLA (Rilla Hickerson)

SIBERIAN

68 RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES

(Robert Hollingworth)

64 BANISH MISFORTUNE (Marty Schafer

& Jan Sacks)

44 CHINA SPRING (Robert Bauer and John Coble)

Runners-up:

42 EMILY ANNE (Robert Hollingworth)

40 LAVENDER FAIR (Robert Hollingworth)

SPURIA

48 LACED SUNSHINE (D. L. Shepard)

44 BUTTER RIPPLES (B. Charles Jenkins)

Runner-up:

37 BLUEBERRY SUNDAE (O. D. Niswonger)

JAPANESE

19 BLUSHING SNOWMAIDEN (Chad Harris)

18 DIRIGO STAR (John White)

18 SLUMBERING DRAGON

(Robert Bauer & John Coble)

Runners-up:

15 ANGEL MOUNTAIN (Robert Bauer &

John Coble)

15 PEAK OF PINK (Robert Bauer & John Coble)

HONORABLE MENTION**TALL BEARDED**

145 FLORENTINE SILK (Keith Keppel)

85 THAT'S ALL FOLKS (William Maryott

by Joseph Ghio)

82 ROYAL STERLING (Keith Keppel)

77 PRAGUE (Thomas Johnson)

72 ALL NIGHT LONG (Roger Duncan)

59 AFTERNOON IN RIO (Schreiner)

59 BUBBLE BUBBLE (Joseph Ghio)

57 BARBARA JEAN (Ronald Mullin)

50 AUGUSTINE (Oscar Schick)

50 KONA WAVES (Robert Annand)

48 LOOKY LOO (Richard Ernst)

45 APPLAUSE LINE (Joseph Ghio)

45 BLAZING BEACON (Richard Tasco)

43 BELGIAN PRINCESS (Thomas Johnson)

43 DARK DRAMA (Keith Keppel)

43 MIAMI BEACH (Keith Keppel)

43 OPAL WITHERS (John Van Hook)

43 TOM CAT (Larry Lauer)

42 EXPLICIT (Joseph Ghio)

42 SECRET RITES (Keith Keppel)

41 DRIFTING BUBBLES (Joseph Ghio)

40 NEW PERSPECTIVE (Frederick Kerr)

39 CHAMPAGNE BUBBLES (Joseph Ghio)

39 SANTA WAS HERE (O. D. Niswonger)

38 MANGO PASSION (Larry Lauer)

38 RODEO GIRL (Schreiner)

36 ELIZABETHAN AGE (Lowell Baumunk)

36 VATICAN FLAG (A. & D. Willott)

35 BENEATH MY WINGS (LeRoy Meininger)

33 ANGEL WINGS (Lynda Miller)

33 AWESOME POSSUM (Brad Kasperek)

33 GUARDIAN ANGEL (Keith Keppel)

33 SATURN (Thomas Johnson)

33 VISUAL INTRIGUE (Richard Tasco)

32 DANCE RECITAL (Keith Keppel)

32 IWAN'A IGUANA (Brad Kasperek)

31 BOWLED OVER (Joseph Ghio)

30 SHARPER IMAGE (Paul Black)

29 AWESOME ALEX (Tom Burseen)

29 BIRTHDAY GIRL (Keith Keppel)

29 MAGDALENA LOUISA (Brad Kasperek)

29 PRETTY BUBBLES (Joseph Ghio)

29 SUN POWER (Thomas Johnson)

29 TEAM SPIRIT (Keith Keppel)

29 WAIMEA CANYON SUNRISE (Larry Johnson)

28 BY DESIGN (Frederick Kerr)

28 TWILIGHT SYMPHONY (Ronald Mullin)

27 BALL OF CONFUSION (Richard Ernst)

27 FULL FIGURED (Thomas Johnson)

27 HOPTOIT (Tom Burseen)

27 POWER POINT (Thomas Johnson)

27 QUANTUM LEAP (George Sutton)

26 PICKLEDILLY (Lesley Painter)

25 BRILLIANCE (Lesley Painter)

25 CARNIVAL CAROUSEL (James Begley)

25 GUATEMALA (Thomas Johnson)

25 MOONLIT WATER (Keith Keppel)

25 STRIKE A POSE (Thomas Johnson)

24 BINGO BANGO BONGO (Tom Burseen)

24 HALO IN NUTMEG (O. D. Niswonger)

24 HIGH PRIESTESS (Lowell Baumunk)

24 ROYAL BIRTH (Earnest Royal)

24 WINTERFEST (Schreiner)

23 DESIGNER'S ART (Frederick Kerr)

23 EVERYTHING PLUS HORNS (Jim Hedgecock)

23 HEAVEN AND EARTH (Larry Lauer)

23 SCHIZO (Richard Ernst)

23 STARLIGHT SONATA (Harold Stahly)

23 SUN ADA BEACH (Merle Roberts)

23 TROPICAL PASSION (Thomas Johnson)

23 ZEBRA BLUEZ (Brad Kasperek)

22 BALANCING ACT (Thomas Johnson)

22 COULEE BREEZE (Merle Roberts)
 22 LIGHT AND SHADOW (Paul Black)
 22 MARTY RICHARDS (Richard Richards)
 22 PEEKABOO ZEBU (Brad Kasperek)
 22 RAINY RIVER (Lesley Painter)
 22 DUSKY HE-MAN (Gerald Richardson)
 21 ACCIDENTAL WOMAN (Lesley Painter)
 21 BATTER UP (Paul Black)
 21 INNOCENT DEVIL (A. & D. Cadd)
 21 LLAMA MAMA (Brad Kasperek)
 21 MEMPHIS MISS (Betty Wilkerson)
 21 PINK BOOGIE (Don Nebeker)
 20 BALLERINA'S PIROUETTE (A. & D. Cadd)
 20 CLOTHED IN GLORY (Frederick Kerr)
 20 COUNTY OF KENT (Lowell Baumunk)
 20 CURRENT EVENTS (Joseph Ghio)
 20 DIVERSION (Thomas Johnson)
 20 DUTCHMAN'S DREAM (Robert Van Lieere)
 20 IT'S ALL GOOD (Richard Ernst)
 20 LOST AND FOUND (Joseph Ghio)
 20 NUCLEUR NANCY (Tom Burseen)
 20 PINK PINCURLS (Ben Hager
 by Cooley's Gardens)
 20 PURPLE SERENADE (Schreiner)
 20 QUIET REFLECTIONS (Robert Van Lieere)
 20 TAKE FIVE (Schreiner)

Runners-up:

19 ABBY AND ME (Tom Burseen)
 19 BEYOND PARADISE (A. & D. Cadd)
 19 CALIFORNIA DREAMIN (George Sutton)
 19 CASUAL ELEGANCE (J. T. Aitken)
 19 CITY OF GOLD (Paul Black)
 19 CONJURING CAT (Paul Black)
 19 COWBOY IN BLACK (Jim Hedgecock)
 19 IRISH JIG (Keith Keppel)
 19 JOYFUL SKIES (Schreiner)
 19 PADDED SHOULDERS (Paul Black)
 19 SOCIALIST (Tom Johnson)
 19 SWEET EMOTIONS (Vincent Christopherson)

BORDER BEARDED

36 CUT ABOVE (J. T. Aitken)
 35 FLEECE AS WHITE (Paul Black)
 30 PIN CUSHION (Larry Lauer)
 28 HASTA LA VISTA (J. T. Aitken)
 27 MINNEOLA (George Sutton)
 27 TWIGGY (Donald Spoon)

Runners-up:

26 LACED HANDERCHIEF (A. & D. Cadd)
 25 CRISPY CRITTER (J. T. Aitken)

25 PARQUET LADY (Oscar Schick)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

64 GARNET SLIPPERS (Keith Keppel)
 50 SYNERGY (Keith Keppel)
 37 FLYING CIRCUS (Keith Keppel)
 37 MANY MAHALOS (J. T. Aitken)
 31 BANSHEE (Marky D. Smith)
 31 BERING SEA (Marky D. Smith)

Runners-up:

24 CAT'S HAT (Donald Spoon)
 24 SOFTLY (Richard Tasco)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

137 PLUM QUIRKY (Riley Probst)
 112 DIVIDING LINE (Charles Bunnell)
 46 PERSONA (Keith Keppel)
 42 BACH TOCCATA (Lowell Baumunk)

Runners-up:

40 RAZZLEBERRY DRESSING
 (Stephanie Markham)
 40 SKY TRACERY (Stephanie Markham)
 38 PERFORMER (Kenneth Fisher)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

58 DEVIL BABY (Keith Keppel)
 35 PHOTON (Marky D. Smith)
 34 DIME (Paul black)
 31 DEVOTED (Paul Black)
 27 BRIGHT STAR CHILD (Carol Coleman)
 26 SWEETHEARTS AGAIN (J. Paul Hill)
 23 SPIDERMAN (Donald Spoon)
 22 PILOT (Marky D. Smith)
 21 CIRCUS CLOWN (Paul Black)
 21 POPSICLE (Thomas Johnson)
 21 SURROUNDED (Paul Black)
 21 WILD HORSES (Larry Lauer)
 20 ALL THAT MAGIC (Richard Tasco)
 20 FIRE EATER (Marky D. Smith)
 19 APRICOT FANCY (A. & D. Willott)
 19 CONEY ISLAND (Keith Keppel)
 19 MIKEY LIKES IT (J. T. Aitken)
 19 SHARP DART (Lowell Baumunk)
 19 SPIDERBABY (Donald Spoon)
 19 SUGAR MAPLE (George Sutton)
 19 TUTU TEAL (Donald Spoon)

Runners-up:

18 EXPERIMENT (Paul Black)
 18 FLAMING EMBERS (A. & D. Willott)
 18 VELVET ECHO (A. & D. Willott)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 24 RUBY ELF (A. & D. Willott)
- 22 FLASHING NEON (A. & D. Willott)
- 21 MIGHTY MOUSE (George Sutton)
- 21 WEE VIKING (A. & D. Willott)

Runners-up:

- 17 KIDLING (Marky D. Smith)

ARIL AND ARILBRED (Pure aril and arilbred irises of ½ or more aril content)

- 21 HAMMURABI (Lowell Baumunk)
- 10 GIDEON'S LAMP (Pete McGrath)
- 10 HANNAH'S PRAYER (Pete McGrath)
- 10 TCHA'DEETCH (Rob Stetson)

Runner-up:

- 9 SOLOMON'S COURT (Sam Norris
by James Whitely)

ARILBRED (Arilbred irises of ¼ but less than ½ aril content)

- 28 PERSIAN SAPPHIRE (Lowell Baumunk)
- 19 NEFRET (Marky D. Smith)

Runners-up:

- 12 CUP RUNNETH OVER (Sharon McAllister)
- 10 BELOVED INFIDEL (A. & D. Willott)

SPECIES

- 79 SEAKRILL (Jill Copeland)
- 45 Z Z ZANZIBAR (Brad Kasperek)

Runner-up:

- 19 EPIC POEM (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

INTER-SPECIES

- 32 CELIA WELIA (Jill Copeland)
- 27 FLOATING CANDLES (Marty Schafer
& Jan Sacks)

- 23 NIGHT MOOD (Lynn Markham)

Runners-up:

- 18 KINSHIKOU (Hiroshi Shimizu by
Carol Warner)
- 18 UNION MADE (Robert Bauer & John Coble)

CALIFORNICA

- 10 BAR CODE (Joseph Ghio)
- 7 BUBBLE GUM (Joseph Ghio)
- 7 STEAMER LANE (Lois Belardi)
- 6 ADMIRAL'S PRIDE (Vernon Wood)
- 6 OCEAN BLUE (Joseph Ghio)

Runners-up:

- 5 LINES THAT RHYME (Joseph Ghio)
- 5 STAR OF EVENING (Joseph Ghio)

LOUISIANA

- 19 ANN'S LEGACY (M. D. Faith)
- 18 LET FREEDOM RING (Bernard Pryor)
- 17 FRENCHMEN STREET (Patrick O'Connor)
- 16 JUNE'S PICK (M. D. Faith)
- 14 FOXY ONE (M. D. Faith)

Runners-up:

- 13 MAISON DE VILLE (Mary Dunn by
Joseph Ghio)
- 12 EDMOND RIGGS (Richard Sloan)
- 12 FREDERICK DOUGLASS (Dorman Haymon)
- 12 PARK AVENUE PRINCESS (Heather Pryor)

SIBERIAN

- 48 ON HER TOES (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
- 37 CHARMING BILLY (Marty Schafer &
Jan Sacks)

- 35 NAVY TRIM (Calvin Helsley)

- 31 KISS THE GIRL (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
- 29 GOSSAMER BREEZE (Chandler Fulton)

Runners-up:

- 28 NOT QUITE WHITE (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)
- 26 PINK PEPPER (Robert Bauer & John Coble)

SPURIA

- 19 SPARKLING CIDER (A. & D. Cadd)
- 18 DORIS IRENE (B. Charles Jenkins)
- 17 SUNRISE SURPRISE (O. D. Niswonger)

Runners-up:

- 15 SHORT CIRCUIT (A. & D. Cadd)
- 12 FLUTTER BUG (D. L. Shepard)
- 12 GOLDEN DUCAT (A. & D. Cadd)
- 12 OUR CINDY ANN (D. L. Shepard)
- 12 SAINT PATRICK'S GOLD (A. & D. Cadd)

JAPANESE

- 31 LAKE EFFECT (Robert Bauer & John Coble)
- 18 BELGIUM WARRIOR (Willy Hublau)
- 17 WONDERFUL DELIGHT (Donald Delmez)
- 16 EASTER PASTEL (Currier McEwen, deceased)
- 15 SNOOK (Jill Copeland)

Runners-up:

- 11 ASIAN FESTIVAL (Chad Harris)
- 10 ORCHID FOUNTAIN (Donald Spoon)
- 10 WISPY CLOUDS (Robert Bauer & John Coble)



AdoreMy

"For the things Iris Lover's adore.."

We specialize in:

Realistic large format -

- Named Varieties & Custom Images from photos or Art
- Wearable Embroidery Art
- Framed Embroidery Art
- Gicleé Quality Canvas Prints
- Digital Images and Art on Ceramic mugs or plaques, Porcelain, Metal, Wood and Fabric/garments.



16x20" Portrait 'Edith Wolford'
Orig: B Hager ~ Embroidery Art
Hand crafted solid wood Frame

Your Iris CAN bloom in December!

Your art or photo made into embroidery - framed or sewn on garments or accessories or pressed on dishwasher/microwave safe ceramic mugs or plaques, porcelain pendants, garments or accessories.

Jill & Dennis Mitcham

"Members of Loomis Iris Society"

www.AdoreMy.com

irislover@adoremy.com

719/456-1228

AIS 2007 Award Winners



Cook-Douglas Medal

'Music' (Keppel 99, SDB)



Photo: Aitken

*Walther
Cup
Winner*

'Florentine Silk'
(Keppel 05, TB)

William Mohr Medal

'Hakuna Matata' (Cadd 00, AB OGB-)



Photo: Holte



Photo: Norris

Caparne-Welch Medal

'Wise' (Johnson 01, MDB)

Sydney B. Mitchell Medal

'Pacific Miss' (Belardi 99, CA)



Photo: Walker

Debaillon Medal

'My Friend Dick'
(Butler/Faith 00, LA)



Hans & Jacob Sass Medal

'Delirium'
(Smith 01, IB)



Photo: Aitken

Knowlton Medal

'Go For Bold' (Black 01, BB)

Eric Nies Medal

'Missouri Orange' (Niswonger 98, SPU)



Photo: Aitken



Founders of SIGNA Medal

'Bayou Bandit' (Weeks/Campbell 98, SPEC)

Morgan-Wood Medal

'Ships Are Sailing' (Schafer/Sacks 98, SIB)





Photo: Airken

Williamson-White Medal

'Madam President' (Thurman 01, MTB)

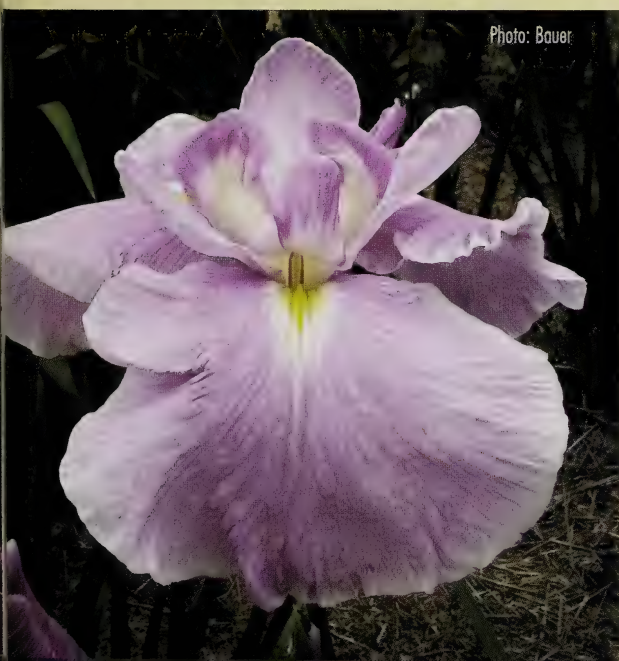


Photo: Bauer

Payne Medal

'Dirigo Pink Milestone'
(J. White 00, JI)

MIS Recap

(See articles starting pg. 74)

Dean and Judy Douglas
in their garden



Douglas Garden



Dean Douglas and Bob Vanacek
at the MIS Banquet, Lincoln, NE



Photo: Hobbie



Left: Judy Douglas and Connie Vanacek
at the MIS Banquet, Lincoln, NE

Below: *Iris lacteain* bloom in the Douglas
Garden at the MIS Convention



Photo: Norris



The Cundall/ Carter Garden

Top: 'Performer' (Fisher 03, MTB)
Below: 'Petit Louvois' (Mahan 06, MTB)





Photo: Holte

Top: MIS convention attendees Kelly Norris, Gary White, and Bob Plank in the Smith Garden, Lincoln, NE

Below: MIS Convention attendees at the Sass Memorial Garden, Lincoln, NE



Photo: Holte

Right: Tree art in the Shepard Garden

Far Right:
'Tickety Boo' (Niswonger 01, SDB)



The Shepard Garden



Left: 'For Your Love' (Lauer 02, IB)

Right: 'Absolute Joy' (Airken 06, SDB)

Photo: Airken



Photo: Norris

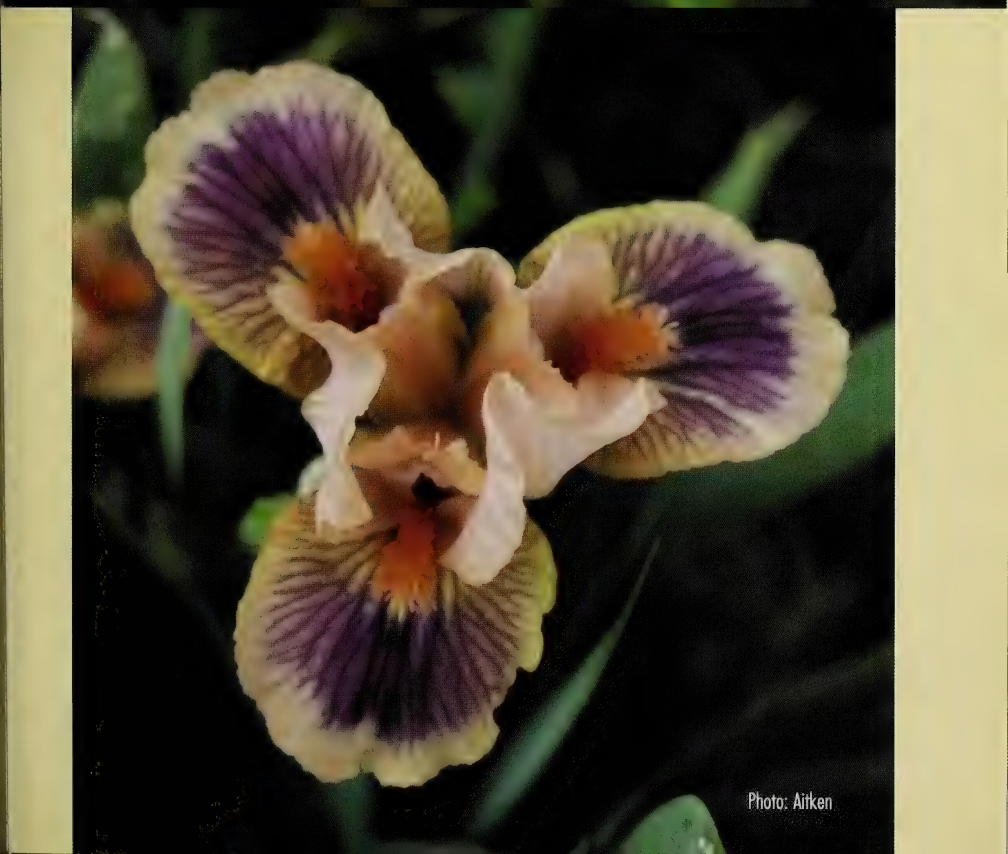


Photo: Aitken



Photo: Norris

The Smith Garden

Above: 'Cat's Hat' (Spoon 04, IB)

Below: The Smith Garden

Above Right: MIS attendees evaluate convention beds in Smith Garden.



Photo: Aiken



Photo: Norris



Left:

Walker Seedling
00-101-5 at the
White-Rader Garden

Photo: Aitken

Right: 'Silgrey's Beauty' (Varner 07, BB)

Below: 'Bonkers' (Keppel 06, IB)

Bottom: In the White-Rader Garden



Photo: Probst



Photo: Norris

The White- Rader Garden



Photo: Hughes



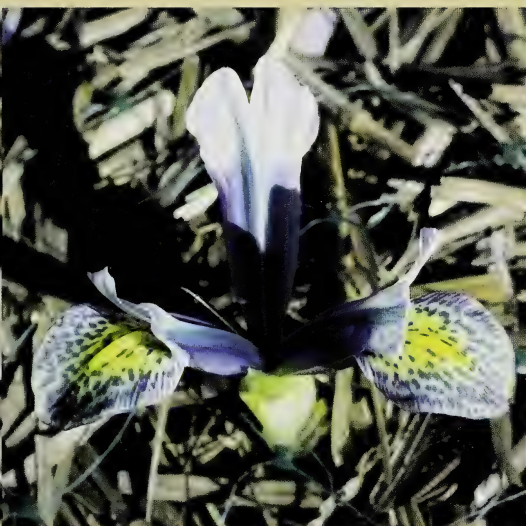
(See Story, page 86)

Photos: Blyth

The Value of Reciprocal Crosses







Reticulata Iris

(See Story, page 82)

Top row, left to right: 98-E0-2, 97-CQ-1, 01-IV-3, 00-FP-1

Middle row, left to right: 94-HW-1, 94-AT-2, 00-IB-1, 00-JP-1

Bottom: 96-BN-1

All photos: McMurtrie



Top: 'Cherry Spot'
(Welch 56, MDB) amongst rocks.

Middle: Pumilas in rock garden

Bottom: 'Brown Heart'
(Dyer 75, MDB) amongst rocks

Photo: Willott



Photo: Krystal Norris

Blessings of a Rock

(See Story, page 90)



Photo: Kelly Norris

Happenings of Region 4

(See Story, page 96)



Top: 'Love at First Sight'
(Crump 07, TB)

Middle: Doris and the late
Owings Rebert's garden

Bottom: 'Banish Misfortune'
(Schafer/Sacks 99, SIB)

All photos: Ginny Spoon

Photo: Hollingworth



Photo: Hollingworth



Siberian Irises

(See Story, page 91)

This Page:

Top Left: 'China Spring'
(Bauer/Coble 99, SIB)

Top Right: 'Six Love'
(Hollingworth 05, SIB)

Bottom Left: 'Careless Sally' (Schafer/Sacks 96, SIB) Rebloom

Bottom Right: 'Haleakala' (Smith 06, SIB) Rebloom

Next Page:

'Devil's Dream' (Schafer/Sacks 90, SIB) with 'Coronation Anthem' (Hollingworth 90, SIB) in the background at Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden



Photo: Aitken



Photo: Aitken

Siberian Irises Sequential Bloom in the Northwest in July.

See article page 106.



Photo: Airken



A painting of the black CA 'Night Gown' (Ghio 01 CA)
by Jean Emmons.
(See Story, page 22)



A Diploid Revival (See Story, page 88)

Top: 'Clown Pants' (Silvers 06, SPEC-X)

Bottom Left: Iris cengialtii X Clown Pants (RE2)

Bottom Right: Iris cengialtii X Clown Pants (RE3)

All photos this page: Silvers

Next six pages:
2007 Photo Contest Winners
 (See Story, page 64)



Category: Irises Used in a Landscaped Garden:

Winning Entry (above): "Morning Dew", by Debbie Hughes, from Wellsville, Kansas

Runner Up Entry (below): "Oklahoma State Capital", by Robert Treadway, Carlisle, Arkansas





Category: Irises in a
Field or Home Garden:

Winning Entry (right):
"Broke Down Beauty",
by Molly Lacey from
Chatfield, Minnesota

Runner Up Entry (below):
"i. pseudacorus", by Patricia
Randall from Rio Rancho,
New Mexico



Category: Events, Tours,
a Person or People (at
iris location), Shows:

Winning Entry (left):
"Man in Will Rodgers Garden",
by Robert Treadway from
Carlisle, Arkansas

Runner Up Entry (below):
"Artist at Work", by Stephen
Blecher from Littleton, Colorado





Category: Close Up of
an Iris or Irises:

Winning Entry (above):
"Wintry Sky", by Carol Ann
Moyer from Doylestown,
Pennsylvania

Runner Up Entry (right):
by Janet Hill from
Virginia Beach, Virginia



Category: Photos with Art effects, Macro photos of Bloom Segments, photos of Pets or Wildlife in the irises:

Winning Entry (above):
exhibited by Pat Carlson
from Bayfield, Colorado

Runner Up Entry (left):
"Through the Iris", exhibited by
Molly Lacey from Chatfield, Minnesota





Category: Youth photographer (under 19):

Winning Entry (above): "POW", by Grace Farley from Lincoln, Nebraska

Runner Up Entry (below): "Capitol View", by Grace Farley from Lincoln, Nebraska



Winners of the 2007 Photo Contest

By Kitty Loberg, California

Many photographers from 2006 were back again this year with additional entries in our contest, and it was nice to see lots of new exhibitors as well. We had about a 10% increase in the numbers of photos entered with close-ups remaining our largest category. Our participants have met the challenge of finding photos in categories other than just close ups, as the percentage of photos across the other categories is increasing. Last year we had two entries from France. This year we had three entries from France, and two entries from Germany. This year we had a couple more youth entries with excellent photo quality.

What kind of photos did I receive? In the garden and landscaping categories, I got photos of iris beds overlooking canyons, fields with farm implements, beardless growing naturally on edges of river banks, and closer shots of iris clumps against landscaped backgrounds. In the category about iris people and events, I received photos of people at shows, including youth; hybridizers discussing the fine elements of their work, quite a few of attendees at conventions, and several comical shots. I think it is important to catch our friends in more humorous shots, and very much hope you will be the next one with a humor shot for next year!

I received more entries in the pet and wildlife category this year, with favorite kitties and poodles catching the photographer's eyes. The difficulty about taking a good picture of pets and wildlife is that often the wildlife or pet doesn't hang around long enough for the photographer to get the 'best' angle and best light for the irises to show as well. Just keep trying! In the same category we included photos with art effects and macro segments of blooms, as our last years entry counts were low in all of these areas. I was very pleased to see many more of all of these types of photos this year, with some new photos that can only be considered art. There is a lot of opportunity for photographers who have software which can transform an iris photo by adding artistic characteristics, and I encourage you all to try some. Plans currently are to split this category apart because we had the volume of entries to do so, and it will be better to judge these kinds of photos separately.

Regarding the actual “quality” of the photos and its importance in the judging process, there are some points I want to mention. Avoiding heavy shadows will improve your chances. Professional photographers will advise you to use flash in the gardens so you can reduce the shadows on close-ups. The improvement is noticeable. On a close-up photo, try not to have edges of the falls or other parts of the bloom be cut off at the edges, unless your intent is to do a macro shot of bloom segments. When including several blooms in the photo, having a good focus on many of the blooms is important as it makes the photo much more attractive. Close-up photos looking down at a single bloom with a lot of brown dirt showing in the background is often not too attractive. If you’re taking digital photos, try your best to take them in a high resolution, e.g. close to 600dpi, as the higher photo quality will compete so much better with others who are developing from negatives.

I so much enjoy viewing and admiring the entries, as some pretty outstanding photos are quite evident. Our judges are somewhat diverse in their preferences in the iris photos. Many photos were only a few points behind a category’s respective winner, which suggests there are a number of top quality photos worthy of recognition. Again this year, a number of the photos will be displayed as Honorable Mentions on the AIS web site and Region 14’s web site, and perhaps in AIS calendars as well.

The photos received were judged by three judges. Our first judge Lowell Baumunk III is from Littleton, Colorado, hybridizes in all classes of bearded irises, and was twice a winner in our 2006 photo contest. Lowell is heavily involved in photography, but his work is by no means limited to irises. You can see some of his work at www.iriscolorado.com. Our second judge, Kathy Chilton, currently is RVP of Region 15, is an AIS judge, and resides in Tucson, Arizona. She is an avid photographer and was Editor of the Region 15 bulletin for several years. Our third judge, Betty Coyle is also an AIS judge, is past RVP of Region 14, served many offices in Region 14, and served as AIS Convention Chair for the 2004 AIS Convention in Fresno, Calif.

Congratulations to all of our 2007 winners and I thank all of our contestants for sending me their best photos. I also want to thank our three judges for their time and effort to sort and evaluate several hundred photos in a short amount of time.

Category: Irises Used in a Landscaped Garden:

Winning Entry: “Morning Dew”, by Debbie Hughes,
from Wellsville, Kansas

Runner Up Entry: “Oklahoma State Capital”, by Robert Treadway,
from Carlisle, Arkansas

Category: Irises in a Field or Home Garden:

Winning Entry: "Broke Down Beauty", by Molly Lacey from Chatfield, Minnesota

Runner Up Entry: "i. pseudacorus", by Patricia Randall, from Rio Rancho, New Mexico

Category: Events, Tours, a Person or People (at iris location), Shows:

Winning Entry: "Man in Will Rodgers Garden", by Robert Treadway, from Carlisle, Arkansas

Runner Up Entry: "Artist at Work", by Stephen Blecher, from Littleton, Colorado

Category: Close Up of an Iris or Irises:

Winning Entry: "Wintry Sky", by Carol Ann Moyer from Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Runner Up Entry: by Janet Hill, from Virginia Beach, Virginia


Category: Photos with Art effects, Macro photos of Bloom Segments, photos of Pets or Wildlife in the irises:

Winning Entry: by Pat Carlson, from Bayfield, Colorado

Runner Up Entry: "Through the Iris", by Molly Lacey, from Chatfield, Minnesota

Category: Youth photographer (under 19):

Winning Entry: "POW", by Grace Farley, from Lincoln, Nebraska

Runner Up Entry: "Capitol View", by Grace Farley, from Lincoln, Nebraska 

Advertising in the Bulletin

Terry Aitken, Washington


Advertising in retail magazines usually involves a cost which relates directly to the magazines' circulation (exposure to prospective customers) or a "target audience". As a non-profit organization, AIS prices its advertising to cover the cost of printing color or black and white pages. It is considered a service to the society.

We are in an era of rapidly changing purchasing patterns. Until the past few years, orders or requests for catalogs were placed from

ads in the bulletin. Now we have the Internet and the convenience of online shopping carts and secured credit card purchases. Automation and user-friendly services are the wave of the future. Websites have greatly expanded international sales as has our sinking monetary exchange rate. But none of this eliminates the need for advertising in the Bulletin. It simply enhances it. If a new hybridizer or commercial venture puts up a website and sits back waiting to be discovered, it may never happen. There is still a need to get your name and products in front of the people most likely to buy your products. This happens with an ad in the AIS Bulletin.

Most ads appear in the April Bulletin but I personally prefer the January issue. This issue will arrive at its destination sometime in January or February. People can respond with a catalog request which can then be entered into the customer data base before the bulk mailing of catalogs occurs in March. We have run a color ad in the January issue for about 15 years without even listing prices on the plants. The ad is intended to generate catalog requests. Others will advertise all new introductions with prices and pictures. The Bulletin acts as a color catalog for those people. This is a very economical way to reach nearly 5,000 prospective iris customers.

We have observed an interesting pattern with catalog sales. We mail catalogs to people in our customer database. During the course of summer sales, we frequently see our order forms coming back from people who are not in our customer base. We can only speculate that there is a network of iris clubs, general garden clubs, neighbors, or friends who pass catalogs around. This could be considered an extended referral base which reaches far beyond your existing clientele base. Don't sell those catalogs or Bulletins short! Color catalogs have an enormous shelf life. Our color catalog library goes back to about 1970 with our first order from Schreiner's Gardens. AIS Bulletins have nearly the same impact.

Publishing color catalogs is an expensive proposition especially when you add in the postage. It may come to pass that websites will become a more economical source of color pictures than color catalogs. We may evolve into mailing paper price lists to active customers with reference to color pictures either on websites, in the Bulletin, or both. Running a color ad of new introductions in the Bulletin is targeted at the AIS judges, iris societies, hybridizers, and serious iris growers and is an incredibly cost effective way to reach your market base. 

Board of Directors Meeting

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 30-May 1, 2007

By Susan Boyce, Utah

President Jeanne Plank called to order the Spring Meeting of The AIS Board of Directors at 1:05 PM on Monday April 30, 2007. A listing of attendees is included with the full minutes.

The Digest Minutes of the Kansas City, Missouri were approved as published in the January 2007 AIS Bulletin, page 97. The full minutes for that meeting were approved as published on the AIS Webpage.

Action taken was as follows:

*John Jones was approved and approved as Motion Monitor.

The following interim email action was affirmed:

*Acceptance of the Madison Area Iris Society invitation to host the 2010 AIS Convention.

*Approval of the implementation of the Membership Expiration database at the suggested budget amount of \$700, to come from the Electronic Services Restricted Fund.

REPORTS:

General Secretary: Patricia Randall verified the arrival of the Dykes Medal. She announced her resignation from the office of General Secretary, effective with the conclusion of the 2007 fall meeting.

Treasurer: Jill Bonino discussed the voucher payment system, and outlined procedures to follow when the General Secretary (in cases of emergency) is temporarily unable to handle this process. Her financial report stated that the AIS is in good financial shape.

Bulletin: Managing Editor Terry Aitken reported that our current printer, Bridgetown Publishing has agreed to lower their prices to match the two lower bids Aitken had received from printers located in the Portland area. Due to the resignation of Bruce Filardi, guest editors have been invited to edit the AIS bulletin for the next 4 issues. Aitken will remain as the Managing Editor. Aitken commended Erica Bjerning for her continued excellence in Bulletin Layout & Design. Observing that the number of Bulletin color ads has dropped quite a bit, Aitken recommended that the AIS return to its old display ad rates. The board approved:

*That we roll back the bulletin display advertising rates to those in effect as of the July 2004 Bulletin, those rates to become effective as of the January 2008 Bulletin.

Wages for the Managing Editor and the guest editors were discussed. The board approved:

*That the salary for the Managing Editor be set at \$3,000/year and that \$3,000/year be split equally between the four issues per year as payment to the guest editors and for each of those issues.

To dispel confusion about Bulletin policy on publishing pictures of irises, the policy statement's wording was discussed and refined to achieve greater clarity of intent. The board approved:

*Color pictures of irises used in AIS publications shall be registered, introduced irises, properly published species, historical cultivars, or overall garden shots. Color pictures of seedlings under number or name may be used only in support of specific article content.

Membership Secretary: Tom Gormley reported the continued success of PayPal. Nonetheless, he predicted that membership income would remain flat for this next year. Gormley stated that the current computer system used in the MemSec's office is rapidly becoming outdated. The board approved:

*That the AIS Membership Secretary be authorized to purchase a laptop computer at a price not to exceed \$1,500.

Registrations/Recorders: Mike and Anne Lowe's report noted that a problem with sound-alike names had developed this year. Their report asked the AIS Board of Directors for a ruling. After discussion the board chose not to change the existing policy, and affirmed the following:

*That the AIS maintain its current implementation of the policy of following the International Code of Nomenclature Plants in the registration of Iris names.

Publication/Sales Directors: John & Kay Ludi reported on the status of Storefront stock:

The Eric Nies Chronicles are sold out and more are needed.

The Clarence Mahan book "*Classic Irises and the Men and Women who Created Them*" has a stock remainder of 32 copies and sales have slowed. The board approved the following:

*That the price of the Clarence Mahan book be sold as a 2007 convention special at \$59.

*Once the inventory of the Clarence Mahan book is sold that we not reorder the book.

The "Basic Iris Culture" inventory is very low. The board approved:

*That we reprint 2,000 copies of the Basic Iris Culture immediately.

The board also approved the following motions:

*That the Publications Committee be directed to proceed revising the graphics for the Basic Iris Culture and that the graphics be finished by June 1, 2008.

*That the Publications Committee make best efforts to design a new iris booklet by the AIS Spring Convention 2008.

The AIS seals are also low in inventory, but the AIS racetrack logo re-design needs to be finished before the seals are reprinted. The board approved:

*That John Jones make best effort to complete the vector design of the AIS race track logo by the Fall 2007 Board meeting.

Epperson presented the need to dispose of all remaining copies and revisions of the old judges training handbook. The board approved:

*That the AIS Storefront place all copies of the basic edition and revisions of the sixth edition of the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* into recycling.

Operations Manual: Roy Epperson reported that effective November 2007 President Plank will be in charge of the Operations Manual.

Non-profit Incorporation/501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Status: Bob Plank reported that one Region, one Section, and three Affiliates have become tax exempt. President Plank stated that due to continuous need for assistance, she recommends that the Non-profit Incorporation/501(c)(3) advisor be made a Standing Committee.

Affiliates: Brad Kasperek reported that there are six fewer affiliates than last year.

Awards: Roy Epperson stated that after this convention there would be a need to cast more Wister Memorial Medals.

Calendars: Terry Aitken reported that most of the pictures for the 2008 calendar are the photos from the 2006 AIS photo contest.

Donations: Donna James reported that donations have remained steady to date for this year.

Convention: Paul Gossett reported that he has received an invitation from Portland, Oregon to host the fall board meeting in 2010. The board approved:

*That we accept the invitation from the Greater Portland Iris Society to host the fall board meeting in 2010.

Electronic Services: John Jones reported receiving more than \$7,800 in subscription revenues from www.irisregister.com, which currently lists 192 subscribers. The Dwarf Iris Society and Aril Society International have signed on to use the Paypal system, a new service being implemented which will allow AIS members to check their membership status. The board approved:

*That we administer the "subscribers only" section of the AIS Website by publishing a password in each bulletin.

Foundation: Roger Mazur's report stated that Dr. Rodionenko's work is finished and he will be retiring. Bob Plank reported on current developments surrounding the DuBose estate.

Information Resource: Anne Lowe reported continuing to receive and to provide answers to inquiries.

Insurance: Michelle Synder reported that Affiliates continue to use the web page to obtain needed certificates of insurance from the broker.

Judges: Judy Keisling reported that there is some concern about being able to fulfill the in-garden requirements for the first 3-year cycle because of unusual weather conditions in 2007. The board did not approve of extending the deadline to July 31, 2009.

Judges Handbook: Roy Epperson reported that the new Judges Training Handbook is now available for purchase.

Library: Tracy Plotner submitted a list of items that were sent from the AIS Library to the 2007 convention Silent Auction. The board approved:

*That the items listed in the Librarian's report as donations to the 2007 AIS Silent Auction be accepted.

Photo Contest: Kitty Loberg's report stated that the 2006 photo contest was a huge success. Details about the 2007 contest have been published in the AIS bulletin, and can be found on the AIS website.

Policy: Mike Lowe reported that because searches of the database for past policy have become too cumbersome to continue, a new way to search policy is being explored.

Programs, Slides, and Speakers: Avery & Joyce Poling's report summarized the activities of their departments. Epperson noted that there is a problem with some of the slides being mis-identified. The board approved:

*That the AIS President appoint an adhoc committee to review and document corrections for the AIS slide sets and CDs.

Publications: Maureen Mark's report echoed the need to print more copies of the Eric Nies Chronicles. She reminded the Board about the need to register AIS Publications. Epperson noted that the AIS owns 100 ISBN numbers, only eight of which have been used.

Publicity: Bob Pries reviewed the different projects that the Publicity Committee has been working on.

Scientific Advisory Committee: Gary White's report summarized the committee's activities since the 2006 Fall Board meeting. The AIS financial obligation has been completed for the grant to Dr. Alan Meerow. Dr. Meerow requested and received approval from the AIS Board, for a no-cost extension for the grant through April 2007. The final report will be expected following completion of his study.

Section Liaison: Jim Morris reported that four of the sections are searching for new editors. He announced that each Section and Cooperating Society has been offered the opportunity to provide 2-4 pages of copy on their favorite flower classification in either the July or October issues of the AIS bulletin.

Silent Auction: Rita Gormley reported that last year's very successful Silent Auction in Portland was due in part to the large number of convention attendees.

Symposium: Gerry Snyder stated that the tally sheets and software are ready for the RVP's to begin the symposium ballot this summer.

Youth: Cheryl Deaton announced the results of the Ackerman Essay contest: Cameron Flowers, Region 7, (13 and up age group) and Sarah Green, Region 21, (12 and under age group).

Report of the Nominating Committee: President Plank reported that the slate of nominees to be considered as candidates for the four director positions on the American Iris Society Board of Directors are: Carol Goldsberry (22), Rita Gormley (18), Paul Gossett (22), Susan Grigg (4), Kitty Loberg (14), Jim Morris (18), Bob Pries (18), and Michelle Synder (15). One additional nomination was added from the floor. Bob Keup (2).

Executive Session: The Board of Directors met in executive session to select the 2007 Director Nominees. Nominees selected as candidates to fill those three-year terms that will expire in 2010 are: Paul Gossett, Bob Keup, Jim Morris, and Bob Pries.

Nominating Committee Appointments: President Plank appointed Louise Carson and John Ludi as Board representative to the 2008 Nominating Committee. Carson and Ludi will join Jody Nolin, Nancy Pocklington, and Barbara Aitken as members of this Committee. The 2007 nominating committee recommended the first notice requesting suggestions for candidates for nomination to the AIS Board of Directors be published in the October AIS Bulletin. They also recommended a follow up request, along with the deadline date for submitting nominations be published in the January AIS Bulletin.

Designation of President-elect: The Board approved:

*That Roy Epperson be designated as President-elect.

Designation of Secretary-elect: Epperson noted that Patricia Randall's resignation would become effective at the close of the Fall 2007 AIS Board meeting. To aid in making a smooth transition of the office to the new General Secretary. The board approved:

*That Michelle Synder be appointed as General Secretary-elect.

RVP Representative: Bob Keup recommended that this position be discontinued. The board disagreed and reaffirmed the view point that the RVP Representative position is very important, and that more focus will be directed towards defining the position's responsibilities.

RVP Counselor: Louise Carson announced that at the RVP meeting, Jerry Coates, Region 4 was elected RVP Representative to the Board for 2007-2008. Discussed at the meeting was the need for a RVP communication network. Region 24 submitted a candidate to fill the vacant position of Region 24 RVP. The board approved:

*That Jim Chappell be approved as the RVP for Region 24.

Meeting dates for the 2007 Fall Board meeting in Durham, North Carolina are Nov 2-4, 2007. Susan Grigg will serve as the local chairman overseeing Fall Board meeting arrangements.

On behalf of herself and the Board, President Plank thanked Bill McVicker, Convention Chairman, and expressed appreciation to him and to all the Region 22 Convention committee members for hosting this 2007 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma National Convention.

Meeting adjourned Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at 8:40 pm. 

AIS Calendar:

2008: April 14-19

Austin, TX

Chairs: Jim Landers

710 North 11th

Temple, TX 76501-3016

(254) 773-5017

jimlanders43@hotmail.com

and: Pat Byrne

(281) 391-6190

patb1@consolidated.net

Headquarters:

Omni Austin Hotel at

Southpark

4140 Governor's Row

Austin, TX 78744

(512) 383-2621

2009: May 11-16

Kansas City, MO

Chair: Debora Hughes

3395 Utah Road

Wellsville, KS 66092

(785) 883-4737

dhughes936@myvine.com

Headquarters:

Doubletree Hotel Overland Park

10100 College Boulevard

Overland Park, KS 66210

(913) 451-6100

2010: May/June

Madison, WI

Chairman: John Baker

4601 CTH TT

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

(608) 825-7423

FALL BOARD MEETINGS

2007: Nov 2-4

Raleigh-Durham, NC

Chair: Susan Grigg

105 Trotters Ridge Road

Raleigh, NC 27614

(919) 870-8345

irismom@nc.rr.com

Headquarters:

Wyndham Raleigh Durham

Research Triangle Park

4620 S. Miami Blvd.

Durham, NC 27703

(919) 941-6066

2008: Oct 31 – Nov 2

Las Vegas, NV

Chair: Mary lee Fortner

3337 Ascona Street

Lass Vegas, NV 89129

(702) 228-0827

mybasket@cox.net

2009: Nov 6 - 8


Tulsa, OK

Chair: Paul W. Gossett

129 East 33rd Place

Tulsa, OK 74105-2542

(918) 742-1204

pwgossett@juno.com 

Prairie Gold: The MIS Recap

The Cundall/Carter Garden

By Robert Strohman, Kentucky

Most visitors to the Lincoln median gathering “Prairie Gold” shared similar stories of spring 2007’s big freeze that came at just the wrong time, ruining buds about to open, stifling stalk development, killing whole clumps. The “equal-opportunity freeze” had hit Nebraska, too, with no consideration for those of us wanting to see the guest medians at their best. As a result, bloom was sparse, but what there was looked nice.

At the last tour garden on the last day, blooms in the garden of Brad Cundall and Kaline Carter were a most plenteous dessert for our tour. Their garden is located in Louisville, Nebraska (pronounced LOO-ISS-VILL as opposed to the LOO-UH-VUL where I’m from). Their iris collection and the median guests had weathered the destructive freeze somewhat better than other gardens so that our visit there was not at all disappointing.

The curved, perfectly clean beds in the front yard held TBs yet to bloom, with stalks rising everywhere. The TB beds were edged with Brad and Kaline’s own medians. Some of those doing very nicely were the plicata MTB **‘Funny Freckle Face’** (Wulf 04), the blue-bearded yellow IB **‘Blue Eyed Blond’** (Ensminger 89), and the broken-color IB **‘Blueberry Filly’** (Kasperek 00). More TBs were thriving in the rectangular beds to the right of the house, along with a vast planting of lily-of-the-valley.

The guest medians grew in two large beds behind the garage where they apparently were protected from the worst of the freeze. Not everything was in bloom, but those that were grabbed our attention. Among guest SDBs several remain in my memory.

From Terry Aitken there was the aptly-named **‘Absolute Joy’** (06, SDB), pink with purple fall striations, and **‘Flirting Again’** (02, SDB), a violet-over-rust reblooming bicolor.

From Paul Black came **‘Fine Idea’** (05, SDB), blue-violet with darker veins, a fine idea indeed. My favorite of Paul’s SDBs was **‘Wish Upon a Star’** (06, SDB), a white-bearded purple self with a neon-like glow setting it apart.

Lucy Burton’s very subtly-colored beauty **‘Pale Rider’** (04, SDB) combines greenish-white and palest lavender-grey.

From Idaho's Carol Coleman there was the lovely **'Bright Star Child'** (05, SDB) with blue standards and blue-violet falls with blue-black centers.

Keith Keppel sent **'Minor League'** (03, SDB), a pretty yellow-hafted white.

'Medieval Knight' (04, SDB), from Larry Lauer, was smoky pink and quite beautiful.

Also unforgettable was Marky Smith's not-yet-introduced **'Anubis'** (SDB), a black self, even to its beards.

Two dark red selfs were quite striking. One was Don Spoon's **'Red Rabbit'** (02, SDB), the other Rick Tasco's **'Fancy Sparkler'** (04, SDB).

And from Dorothy and Tony Willott came **'Blue Persian'** (04, SDB), a refreshing light-blue self; **'Cinnamon Circles'** (05, SDB), with greenish-violet standards and pale blue falls with brown centers; and **'Fiery Dawn'** (05, SDB), a bright orange self.

These SDBs, as nice as they were, were only a few of what might have bloomed had the weather cooperated. But the fact that they did bloom is a tribute to their hardiness. Far fewer IBs and BBs were blooming during the tour, fewer still in my garden in Louisville, KY.

However, the real stars of the Cundall-Carter garden were the MTBs.

Ken Fisher's **'Performer'** (03, MTB) caught everyone's attention. Peppered all-over with purple, its ground color is violet, a striking addition to the MTB class. His pretty light-blue self **'Sailor's Dream'** (04, MTB) also was seen.

MTB specialist Stephanie Markham sent the always-impressive violet-on-white plicata **'Larry's Girl'** (02, MTB) as well as **'Jiggity-Jig'** (07, MTB), with palest lavender standards and red-violet falls heavily striped white.

Clarence Mahan's dark-red bitone **'Petit Louvois'** (06, MTB) was a dusky beauty. Its name honors the historic French cultivar **'Louvois'** (Cayeux 39, TB).

Brad Kasperek's **'Z Z Zanzibar'** (05, SPEC-X) was listed as an *I. variegata* species and, thus, performed as an MTB. It has white standards over white falls heavily striped with blue-violet veins.

Before leaving the garden I spoke with Brad Cundall about his pet hybridizing project: to develop space-age irises with broken-color flowers and variegated foliage. Beside the guest median beds was Brad's own bed of TB seedlings, all of them with variegated fans. Many had stalks emerging and one wonders what visitors saw there a week or two later.

"Prairie Gold", hosted by Region 21, celebrated the Median Iris Society's fiftieth anniversary, and our visit to the Cundall & Carter garden was just one part, a thoroughly enjoyable part it must be said, of that celebration.

The Douglas Garden

By Lyn Wilson, Kansas

The Douglas Garden was surrounded by a tall hedge, and entered through a lovely arch. It was truly a flower lover's oasis in the midst of a farming area. The lawn was perfect and mature trees provided shady spots to snack and visit.

The iris were making a great comeback evidenced by a great photo display of the destruction of the bloom stalks and foliage caused by the late and horrid freeze that was so deadly throughout the Midwest. The bloom was just starting, but the remarkable thing was how well the guests had been cleaned up and encouraged: a real act of iris love. Peak bloom must have been beautiful; it was probably a week or two after our visit.

There were birds, bird songs and butterflies in the garden and a wonderful specimen of *Iris lactea* in full bloom. What a survivor!

It was great fun to be with so many other Median lovers and see the sunshine. In case you'd forgotten, the heavy rains caused flooding in Kansas, Nebraska and other parts; road closings due to high water changed travel routes for many attendees. This followed the devastating freezing weather in April that took out early blooming irises and foliage, leading to leaf diseases and a difficult recovery for many garden plants, not just the irises.

It is always a pleasure to go to another region and see friends. As with all iris gatherings, the hospitality was warm and welcoming and the garden treats were wonderful! If you can, do go to all the Section treks possible. Seeing fanatics you know is always great, and you get to meet so many people who share your passion. Sincere thanks to Dean and Judy Douglas for opening their garden to us.

The Shepard Garden

By Perry Dyer, Oklahoma

The Shepard Garden, in a rural setting northeast of Lincoln, certainly showed signs of the late freeze which devastated the entire region, and with several clumps of convention guests with frozen out bloom stalks. But in spite of torrential rains immediately before convention, Sonja had done a commendable job of staging the garden so that the conventioners were able to view the bloom without bogging down in the muck! It was fascinating to see which varieties survived the freeze and went on to bloom as if nothing had ever happened. But all in all there was still plenty to see, and the quality of the bloom was most impressive and surprising!

Of the SDBs, my favorite of the convention was 'Absolute Joy'

(Aitken 06). It flourished and bloomed in all three gardens in which it was guested. Few other varieties could make this claim. It's a color carnival in cotton candy pink with a bold plum-fuchsia spot pattern predominating the falls, accented with dazzling coral beards. And most especially, its colors are bright without being gaudy. In the style of its ancestor, **'Pele'** (Aitken 93), it has notably better substance than its predecessors, and is nicely formed with horizontal falls. It is a superb advancement. **'Cheeky Kid'** (Schmieder 06) is a clean and pert "barely-plic", a cold, chaste white with deep violet plicating only in the shoulders. In spite of the freeze damage, it consistently produced one branch and three buds. **'Microwave'** (M. Smith 07) is a wonderful light to medium blue, with just a hint of a deeper blue spot pattern around white beards. It reminded me of a modern version of the classic Cook-Douglas Medalist, **'Sapphire Gem'** (Schmelzer 75), with fantastic form, light to moderate ruffling, and horizontal falls. It carried excellent substance and a glistening texture. Impeccable plant habits should also not be overlooked. **'Surrounded'** (Black 05) is a most esoteric blue plicata with tangerine beards. The stitching goes deep into the heart of the flower, sanded and stippled with a more solid band at the edges. It is distinctive and has character. And **'Tickety Boo'** (Niswonger 01) is my sleeper. I can't imagine how I could have missed such a stunning iris in previous seasons! It has a wonderful color combo, a soft fawn to mauve pink, and then contrasted with screaming, dazzling, deep indigo blue to nearly black beards. Scintillating!

Two IBs were noteworthy. **'Bonkers'** (Keppel 06) is a cleverly named fancy luminata with an odd blending of mahogany and smoked mauve capped off with a bedazzled gold spray in the heart of the flower. **'For Your Love'** (Lauer 02) was performing exceptionally in all three gardens guested. It reminds me of a modern version of the famous Sass Medalist, **'June Prom'** (A. Brown 66), but with a cleaner shade of porcelain blue, thick substance, and a waxy texture. Nice form with moderate ruffling and horizontal falls, as well as excellent growth habits are additional high points with this resilient iris.

MTBs were determined to steal the show in Lincoln and a trio in the Shepard Garden was exceptional. **'Alyssa's Pretty Petticoat'** (Wulf 04) is a strangely named one, yet in spite of its unusual coloring, I kept being drawn back to it. To me it looks like a bronze version of **'Redrock Princess'** (Witt 03), but with somewhat larger, rounder flowers like the tetraploid MTB **'Lucy Doodle'** (Nearpass 03). Standards are bronze to brown, the horizontal falls similar, but with more reddish-brown, then striated in gold, complemented with old gold beards. The clump produced stalks with two, double socketed branches. **'Think Spring'** (S.

Markham 03) had elegant smooth color, the richest and prettiest I've ever seen on it. This clear orchid has excellent rounded form; impressive for a diploid. Stalks were consistently good, producing three well-spaced branches. It also exhibited excellent bloom to increase ratio with vigorous plants. My pet – my favorite of the MTBs – was **'Performer'** (Fisher 03). It is a soft genteel blue with a hint of lilac, then capped with delicate white striations radiating from the heart of the falls. What wonderful form! Excellent, thin and graceful foliage was pleasing. Stalks were perfectly in class with correct height and thickness, well branched with three branches, and consistent throughout the clump in every garden viewed. Outstanding plant habits – the biggest and healthiest clumps in the garden – indeed quite a performer! It was hands-down the best MTB in this garden.

The Bob & Bev Smith Garden **By Cheryl Deaton, California**

The Smiths were very disappointed that due to the late frost they'd had their bloom was not up to par for the convention. But they were very gracious and we were warmly welcomed into their garden. Asiatic lilies and some peonies showed little affect from the frost. A lovely bed of Siberian irises and a clump of **'Black Gamecock'** (Chowning 80), a Louisiana iris, were shown off by huge pillars of pink quartz – quite a showpiece! Columbine, roses and a small red maple graced another bed near the garage.

The guest irises were in raised beds near the rear of the property. The soil was such a rich black. How I envied them as mine is dull gray adobe clay! For the most part, the irises were growing very well with increases evident. The bloom was somewhat sporadic, mostly due to the weather conditions, but there was quite a bit of bloom to see. Tony and Dorothy Willot's SDBs **'Flaming Embers'** (03) and **'Dainty Design'** (04), a pink plicata, were lovely. Their MTB **'Garnet Jewelry'** (06) was showing nice form also. Barbara & David Schmieder's 2006 MTB **'Peebee and Jay'** sported jeweled tones that reminded me of **'Syncopation'** (Gatty 84, TB). Terry Varner's 2002 MTB **'Among Friends'**, a white with such a large purple spot on the falls that it looks like the falls have a white edge, caught my eye as did his **'Silgrey's Beauty'**, a purple bitone 2007 BB. One of Stephanie Markham's MTB seedlings **#96-5A**, a bronze plicata was distinctive, and her 2003 MTB, **'Think Spring'** was a lovely lavender blooming in quite a few gardens. I think Chuck Chapman's seedling **#95-85-7**, an SDB, had better color than his 2003 SDB **'Spirit Guide'**. Don Spoon's **'Cats Hat'**, a burgundy plicata IB introduced in 2004, had plicata markings inside the standards that matched the markings on the falls. Ken Fisher's 2003 MTB **'Ozark Maid'** was doing

very well judging by the size of the clump and number of increases. Many of Keith Keppel's intros were doing well, including the IB **'Ruby Slippers'** (02), a deep burgundy self, and **'Coney Island'**, a gold plicata SDB introduced in 2005. Paul Black's SDB seedling **#M209B** was a deep pink with lots of bloom. By far my favorite was Terry Aitken's **'Absolute Joy'**, a 2006 SDB. The day was so overcast and here was this bright pink blossom with a fuchsia spot on the falls highlighting the coral pink beards. It was almost as if a sunray was shining on it. I think I just might have to find a place in my garden for it.

Even though the weather didn't cooperate, Bob and Bev's warmth and hospitality more than made up for a few drippy clouds. They have a lovely garden and I had a delightful visit. Thanks for sharing it with us all!

Velray Farm & Iris Garden

By Marjorie Jansen, Nebraska

As the bus traversed the rolling hills south and a little east of Lincoln to the Coffey farm, memories of previous visits surfaced. I recalled the farmstead surrounded with a variety of huge trees and a comfortable house encircled with various kinds of shrubbery and lilacs. The immense trees down to the smallest iris imparted the sense of a farmer's love of growing. Sadly, Ray would not be there to greet us this time. He had passed from his earthly home just weeks earlier. We are grateful to the Coffey family for carrying on and fulfilling their commitment to host a tour garden during this trying time.

The garden's iris beds were situated in areas sheltered by trees and shrubs. Despite their sheltering protection, frigid weather of early April had severely damaged the iris, resulting in drastically reduced bloom. Copious amounts of rain preceding our visit made navigating the paths a slippery proposition. While we wished for drier conditions underfoot, frogs serenaded us with thanksgiving for the bountiful rain.

MTB bloom seemed the least affected by the capricious weather. A trio of Stephanie Markham's 2002 intros, consisting of **'Dancing Lilacs'**, lilac with yellow beards, **'Think Spring'**, orchid pink with gold beards, and **'Sky Tracery'**, lavender with deeper lavender veining and yellow-gold beards, were in bloom. They were joined by her seedling **96-1A**, blooming in shades of lavender with white beards. This reminded me of **'Sky Tracery'**. Carrying on the pastel theme were **'Please'** (Craig 05), with yellow standards and white falls edged orchid, and **'Elfin Shadows'** (L. Burton 04) in shades of lavender with gold beards. Lavender-blue fading to a pale background, highlighted by blue lines and white beards was the makeup of **'Lighter Moments'** (Fisher 05). **'Yellow Flirt'** (Fisher 98) stood out in bright yellow with orange beards.

For those who prefer darker colors there was **'Ozark Maid'** (Fisher 03), purple standards with lighter midrib and deep purple falls with a white area around orange beards. **'Garnet Jewelry'** (Willott 06), tannish-wine standards, wine falls, and gold beards, was another in darker shades.

I spotted just one IB in bloom. **'Barrel House Blues'** (Baumunk 04) was sky-blue with a darker infusion in the center of the flower and sported a gold beard.

A smattering of SDBs included the ever popular **'Vavoom'** (Ensminger 94) doing Region 21 proud in bright yellow. **'Hallucination'** (Willott 06), with pale background heavily speckled purple and orange beards, had scrolled fall edges. I find that trait appealing, but some consider it a fault. **'Rainbow Rim'** (Spoon 01) had yellow standards and lavender-gray falls with a yellow rim. A brownish-maroon spot and lavender beard finished off this multi-colored iris.

After checking out the iris, we retreated to the drier confines of the cozy garage to compare notes and partake of the delectable selection of goodies the Coffey family had prepared for us. Here, I noticed a rack of well-used gardening tools gracing one wall. I could well imagine Ray using them in days past. A photo display featured pictures of family and the garden taken during better bloom seasons. It was a privilege and a pleasure to visit this farm again, and enjoy the fine hospitality of the Coffey family.

The Gary White & Linda Rader Garden

By Arnold Koekkoek, Iowa

Like all Midwestern gardens this spacious and beautifully kept yard took its licks from the vicious nights of freezing in April. So, many of the iris weren't blooming when the MIS/Region 21 tour group arrived, and maybe they didn't bloom at all this year. Still, the yard was beautiful, and there were worthwhile things to be seen. A splendid buckeye tree, just past peak bloom, greeted us as we entered the backyard. There were quite a few tulips in bloom as well, and loads of peonies promised to come. Attractive shrubbery was in abundance.

It was the iris for which we came, though, and despite the depleted numbers I did see several eye-catchers in the bold, bright colors I like best. Keith Keppel's 2001 IB **'Bonkers'**, mauve standards, wine falls with gold wire rim and heart, was probably my favorite, along with BB **'Silgrey's Beauty'** (Varner 07), a lavender bitone with a yellow & white beard.

Among the SDBs I noted was **'Flirting Again'** (Aitken 02) with light purple standards, reddish-brown falls, white beard with a purple line extending from it. I also liked **'Smooth'** (Craig 04), in burgundy,

and **'Tickety Boo'** (Niswonger 01), a tan with a bold purple beard. Golds and yellows seemed to be what struck me the most during this tour. There was only one stalk on a frost-wounded plant of **'Cache of Gold'** (G. Sutton 04) but it was a striking deep yellow that one saw from far away. **'Florist Gold'** (D. Spoon 04) was also a very rich gold. Perry Dyer's **'Gaily Forward'** (99) was gold with a white signal. A much lighter yellow with a white area at mid-falls was **'Ghost Ship'** (Black 06). I was also attracted by Wm. and Ada Godfrey's seedling **SQDETf**. It had light purple standards and deep wine falls with a purple center line.

Capping our visit was the refreshment tent where the delicious cold drinks and cookies said, "Thanks for coming," to all of us. Our pleasure, Gary and Linda! We share your disappointment of not having more iris in bloom, but we enjoyed your beautiful yard all the same. 🌸



Photo: Spoon

'Sky and Sun' (Spoon 99, TB)

(see article, page 96)

Reticulata Iris:

A Whole New World...The First Iris to Bloom

By Alan McMurtie, Ontario

A few facts about reticulata iris before we begin:

- They are one of the first flowers to bloom each year, starting just as the snow disappears
- Available commercially in shades of blue and purple, along with the lemon yellow *Iris danfordiae*, and pale yellow *I. winogradowii* (difficult)
- Primarily from eastern Turkey, Iran, and the Caucasus mountains where its very dry in the summer
- Can provide two, even three flowers per bulb in succession, if the bulbs are large enough
- *I. danfordiae* is notorious for "shattering", meaning breaking up into a lot of rice grain-sized bulblets
- Many of the Dutch hybrids will bloom for two or three years and eventually die out in our climate
- Try growing them in sandy top soil in a well drained location with reasonable space between the bulbs
- A little bit of low nitrogen fertilizer at the beginning of the bloom season is good for bulb regeneration
- It takes five years to go from a seed to a flowering bulb

My goal: To create new colors and patterns that will do well in North American gardens.

The adventure so far...

Twenty some years ago, in 1985 and 1986, I went plant collecting in Turkey. My main goal was to find a diploid form of the lemon yellow *Iris danfordiae*¹. In each of those years I traveled 9,000 kilometers over two week periods, getting close to the Russian, Iraqi and Syrian borders.

1 The commercial clone is a triploid, and hence is sterile. Incidentally Kew Gardens did a cytological study on the bulbs I collected and conclusive concluded that danfordiae is $2n = 18$. Reference: The Identity Of Iris 'Katherine Hodgkin' - A Cytological And Morphological Approach, Margaret Johnson & Brian Mathew, Kew Bulletin Vol. 44 #3, 1989, page 516.

The trips were successful in a number of ways. First and foremost, I was very fortunate near the end of my first trip to find *Iris danfordiae* with the help of some locals. Second, I was able to collect a reticulata that was pictured in Brian Mathew's 'The Iris' as being from near Erzurum. This is the reticulata that I refer to as the Çat species, which has become very important from a hybridizing perspective. Third, I was able to observe in the wild a host of other bulbs, including juno iris.

Why collect diploid *I. danfordiae*? In 1961 E.B. Anderson crossed *Iris winogradowii* and *I. histrioides* to create the lovely, but sterile, '**Katharine Hodgkin**'. The cross was repeated by others and we now also have '**Frank Elder**' and '**Sheila Ann Germany**' in commerce. I wanted to use *I. danfordiae* to see what hybrids its lemon yellow color would yield. Over the late 80's and early 90's I made hundreds of crosses which produced over 4800 seeds, however most didn't even germinate. Of particular note were crosses with *Iris sophenensis*, which I was very fortunate to have been given by the late Frank Kalich of Albuquerque, New Mexico. In 1994 sixteen clones bloomed from three crosses made in 1989. Disappointingly they were all blues¹. Some had a bit of yellow influence, but if anything this gave them a muddy appearance. They were clearly nothing like the lovely '**Katharine Hodgkin**' that I had been hoping for. The expectation at that time was that they would be sterile. I felt that if anything was going to work it would be if I intercrossed the clones. By early summer I was able to report to Brian Mathew and others that I had produced 130 seeds from 11 successful crosses. Five years later, in 1999, two of these bloomed. The very first was a gorgeous creamy white with blue markings and a touch of yellow (94-HW-1). I couldn't believe my eyes: absolutely stunning! The blue and yellow coloring had been turned off, revealing an underlying pattern. The other clone was simply a small pale blue of no interest.

The next year I was particularly amazed by a backcross onto *I. danfordiae* that I categorized as 'spotted light blue-green' (96-BN-1). To me it's absolutely gorgeous. Over the next few years further hybrids bloomed and I was able to classify them into the following five categories: Yellow (danfordiae-like), Blue (light blue to dark blue), Yellow-Blue (from yellow with blue veining, through green, all the way to brown), White (typically with an underlying blue or green pattern; on rare occasions yellow), and in the case of backcrossing onto *I. danfordiae*, the occasional Spotted Light Blue-Green, as I've dubbed it. I was able to determine from a high level perspective that two dominant genes

1 Their standards were very narrow, from 1 to 3 mm vs. the normal 7 to 10 mm width. This is the result of combining *danfordiae*'s bristle with *sophenensis*' normal standard.

are responsible for turning blue on and off, and one recessive gene for yellow.

Going into 2003 I was wondering if all I was going to get was simply more of the same.

Back in 1988 I made a cross between *I. danfordiae* and the Çat species. Four small clones eventually bloomed. They largely looked like their Çat parent, and they didn't increase very well. In my mind I thought there was a chance something interesting would result if they could be crossed with the *I. danfordiae* x *I. sophenensis* clones. Indeed, that was the case: in 2003, 16 clones from three 1998 crosses bloomed, eventually increasing to 30 clones from four crosses. In particular, the eleven from the cross 98-NP were amazing. They ranged in color from pale yellow to almost black (with blue style arms and yellow around the fall ridge, so a natural name would be Storm), including one that I call chameleon (pale yellow-green). There was also a spotted blue, a white with navy marking, a white with infused yellow, and a veined brown on yellow ground. The last three were solids: a purple, a plum, and a dark red. Almost all were ones I felt could be introduced, a good sign, but there is a practical reality to how many can be introduced over a period of time. This is especially true considering some of the other lovely hybrids I have.

The three other crosses all had small flowers but three were of particular interest. 98-OO-1 was apricot in color, however it wasn't sun-fast. 98-EO-2 and 98-ND-2 were also apricot. Clearly we will one day have orange reticulatas!

A few more years have passed and I'm just starting to see third generation hybrids. Quite a lot still fall into the five categories, but slowly more are breaking away. Of particular interest were this year's pale yellow with green spots 02-GH-2 and the lovely yellow and white 01-FS-2. Last year's favorite was a blue, but oh what a blue: 01-IV-3. It had a wide white fall blade, dotted and veined blue with a wide, bright yellow throat. Style ribs are dark blue changing to greenish along their length with a white ridge. The large white style lobes have faint blue lines.

Two second generation crosses involving the first "spotted light blue-green" have bloomed. Of interest is one clone from each that has taken the "spotted light-blue-green" theme further. I am looking forward to pursuing this further in future and seeing where it takes me.

I now have some 140 whites. Some are more beautiful than others. For example, the shade of white or cream may be so much more striking with the underlying shade of blue or green markings, and the amount and size of spotting may be just that much more appropriate. The width of the fall can also make a difference in a flower's appeal.

Ideally what we want is to plant a bulb and after a few years have it form a clump of perhaps 5 or 6 flowers which consistently bloom year-after-year without any maintenance. There have been a number of times this has happened for me with small bulbs left behind when I replant part of the garden. On a number of occasions when I dig these clumps up and replant them they do poorly (perhaps because I don't give them enough space). I haven't yet tried removing half the clump, for example, and leaving the remaining bulbs as undisturbed as possible.

For a number of years I've been trying to get the Dutch growers interested in my hybrids. The idea is to have them grow the bulbs commercially while I concentrate on hybridizing. Unfortunately several of the growers that had been testing my hybrids have dropped out. In particular I am still working with Wim de Goede and I am confident that a number of my hybrids will be introduced. Wim is critical of the fact that many of my hybrids have no standards (simply a reality of using *I. danfordiae*; personally I don't believe it really matters e.g. 02-GH-2; but they do come back e.g. 02-GH-3). Wim is also critical that my flowers tend to be on the small side (35 – 50 mm¹), due again to diploid *I. danfordiae* as well as the Çat species. But small can be nice. From a large-scale, commercial perspective they should be 70 mm or more.


I will just point out that a significant number of years are required to build up stock. Take for example 02-GH-2. Assume the number of blooming-size bulbs doubles:

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	...	2016	2017
Flowers	1	2	4	8	...	512	1024

Year	2018	...	2022	2023	2024	2025
Flowers	2048	...	32,768	65,536	131,072	262,144

It would be at least 2021 before it could be introduced from a large scale perspective. Of course Wim is well along the way to building up stock of several of my hybrids.

I have opened a door to a whole new world; one that no one knew existed. And I am only just beginning to explore it.

For more photos, etc. visit www.reticulatas.com 

1 Measured from fall tip-to-tip

The Value of Reciprocal Crosses in Bearded Irises

Blyth data presented by Pat Otterness, Virginia

Reciprocal crosses are crosses that are reversed. For example, in a cross where variety A is the pod parent, and variety B is the pollen parent (A x B), its reciprocal would be (B x A) with variety B as the pod parent and variety A as the pollen parent. Many people assume that it makes no difference which variety is chosen to be the pod parent and which the pollen parent. Insofar as the transmission of chromosomal genes is concerned, this is certainly true. However, insightful observations from hybridizer Barry Blyth challenge this paradigm.

Following up on a rumor that Australian hybridizer Barry Blyth was finding evidence of differences in reciprocal crosses, I went in search of more information. Sure enough, Blyth is finding subtle differences in all reciprocal crosses where he has sufficient progeny to note trends. He observes that *"even when they are close in pattern or form, there is always something subtle that can be seen in large reciprocal crosses. It might be overall timing of flowering (i.e. one cross being a little later than the other), or the average height may be 3 or 4 inches taller overall. But more often the reciprocal cross will be as different as chalk and cheese. Colour, growth, form, you name it. Usually the cross one way will be exceptional and the other way will be very ordinary."*

He went on to say that form and growth habit seem to be determined by the pod parent, while the pollen parent is more likely to influence the color. The key to noticing these differences lies in the size of the reciprocal crosses. The greater the number of seedlings, the more likely one is to observe the tendencies Blyth has noted. As an example, Blyth cites the following:


1. Ennoble X Wearing Rubies. *"I had about 30 seedlings flower. Every one of them was ruby red in tones of 'Ennoble' (Ghio 98, TB). There are 4 different ones depicted on the photos. These were the best four and one was registered as 'Let's Be Brazen' (Blyth 04, TB)."*

2. Wearing Rubies X Ennoble. *"I had about the same or even more seedlings flower from this cross. Every last one was either a vibrant bicolor or amoena. No reddish tones. There are three seedlings depicted (the best 3). None were named."*

Naturally, I found Blyth's observations compelling, so I decided to test their plausibility. In a telephone conversation with Dr. Laura Galloway, a plant biologist at the University of Virginia, I questioned whether Blyth's observations could perhaps have a sound genetic explanation. She responded with a resounding "Yes!"

In the female reproductive cells of plants there are both mitochondria and chloroplasts each containing small amounts of DNA passed along to progeny only through the maternal parent. Chloroplast DNA primarily affects the efficiency of photosynthesis, while mitochondrial DNA affects, among other things, respiration. Some of the mitochondrial and chloroplast genes act alone, while others work in combination with chromosomal genes to produce traits that will not appear in a reciprocal cross where there are different forms of the mitochondrial DNA gene or genes. Dr. Galloway did not have a ready explanation for Blyth's observation that color seemed to be more influenced by the pollen parent, but neither did she rule it out. Clearly, more data is necessary before explanations can be sought.

Once again, I feel compelled to throw down the gauntlet and challenge breeders, especially young ones with many garden-hours in their futures, to get busy adding data in this area. What is needed is a controlled experiment where large reciprocal crosses are performed and results noted and recorded. Blyth says *"usually each season I manage a couple and I am really interested in overall results if there are 30 or 40 seedlings at least in each cross."* He also mentions that sometimes reciprocal crosses cannot be made for lack of pollen, male or female infertility, failure of germination and so on.

Before testing reciprocal crossing for yourselves, check to be sure that the varieties you've chosen don't arise from the same maternal line - siblings, for instance, or half-siblings from a common maternal line, as they would have identical maternally inherited mitochondrial and chloroplast DNA. 

Time for a Diploid Revival

By Tom Silvers, Maryland

Our modern tall bearded irises descend from the tetraploid [48-chromosome] offspring that resulted from crosses of Middle Eastern tetraploids with European diploids [24-chromosome]. Those European diploids were mostly of *Iris pallida* and *I. variegata* ancestry. During the tetraploid revolution, many irisarians felt that their diploid bearded irises had been developed to a point of stagnation with no more possibility for significant improvement. Tetraploid hybridizing was seen as the only way to progress and so the new tetraploids grew to dominate the iris world. Concurrently, diploid hybridizing was largely abandoned, with the exception of some continued work with smaller irises that segregated out of the older diploid gene pool. These smaller diploid irises were the foundation of the miniature tall bearded (MTB) class (although tetraploid MTBs are now increasing in popularity). Has all been done, that can be done with our relatively forsaken diploids?

If as hybridizers we confine ourselves to using only *Iris pallida* and *I. variegata*, we might not see much more variation than previous hybridizers did. But there are quite a few other 24-chromosome bearded irises that haven't been used much, if at all, in hybridizing. One of these species, that I believe has enormous potential, is *Iris suaveolens*. Although I've only scratched the surface, my most promising diploid lines so far have incorporated this iris. My first *I. suaveolens* hybrid came from refrigerated pollen of *I. suaveolens* var. *mellita* applied to the much later blooming *I. variegata*. I only germinated one seedling from the few seeds of this cross, and that seedling has been a vigorous grower and prolific parent for me. It has been registered as a SPEC-X named '**Clown Pants**' and was introduced by Iris City Gardens in 2006. So far, I've crossed '**Clown Pants**' with *Iris pallida* '**Kupari**' (Tankesley-Clarke 94, SPEC), *Iris pallida* (Latil), *Iris cengialtii* (K23A) and various diploid MTBs. I'm seeing a lot of variability among its seedlings – just what a hybridizer wants to see. One recent development that I'm most excited about is the unexpected rebloom that three '**Clown Pants**' seedlings displayed last fall. These were from *Iris cengialtii* (K23A) X '**Clown Pants**'. All three of these seedlings are maturing heavy crops of pods from pollen of a very early, dark-purple diploid seedling ('**Kupari**' x *I. suaveolens* var. *rubromarginata*) X ('**Kupari**' x '**Rosemary's Dream**'). I'll be curious to see if they'll bloom again this fall. My goal with these is to breed reliable and heavily reblooming diploid irises, which brings me to one of the blessings of working at the

diploid level – the relative speed of improvements.

With tetraploidy, you usually gain the immediate benefits of larger size and heavier substance. In addition, new expressions of genes are made possible simply by having four sets instead of two. However, along with those benefits, hybridizers of tetraploids have to accept that hybridizing for traits that might have recessive genetic components will require much bigger populations in order to recover progeny expressing those desired recessive genes. As an example, if two diploid irises are crossed, both carrying one copy of the same recessive gene, one offspring should express that recessive gene, for every three offspring that don't express it. An analogous cross of two tetraploid irises, both carrying one copy of the same recessive gene, might not even give any offspring expressing the gene, citing the complexities of quadrivalent inheritance. However, if any offspring did express it they would be far outnumbered by those that didn't express it. So, when exploring for novel traits, it is very advantageous to be working with diploids.

Here is just a small list of some species and other 24-chromosome bearded irises you might like to consider incorporating into your diploid hybridizing plan:

Iris pallida (I've been using extensively the glaciata-white clone 'Kupari')

Iris variegata

Iris cengialtii

Iris illyrica

Iris suaveolens var. *mellita*

Iris suaveolens var. *rubromarginata*

Iris rudskyi

Iris timofejewii (I've been using a hybrid from Jean Peyrard, T5, which is *I. variegata* X *I. timofejewii*)


Iris astrachanica (I've been using 'Astra Girl' (Varner 89, MTB) derived from this species)

Iris perrieri

Iris furcata

various diploid historics (from before the advancement of the tetraploids)

diploid MTBs

From what I've been seeing already, 24-chromosome diploid irises can be bred to bloom as early as standard dwarf beardeds or later than the latest tall beardeds, and with heights that range from several inches all the way up to tall bearded size. Keep in mind that I'm just getting started, and I hope you'll consider joining me, in launching a diploid revival. 


The Blessings of a Rock

By Robert Pries, Missouri

I can remember when we encountered a rock on the farm that it was removed so it would not break the plow. Today I throw rocks into my garden instead of out. Rocks are nature's own sort of sculptures, but few people actually get beyond the aesthetics to utilize rocks in their gardens as aids to the growing process. Of course we have all used a rock or a brick to hold down newly planted rhizomes from heaving in winter. But maybe we should consider how some of the rock's features and properties could be used in growing irises.

I am afraid we often think of irises as meadow plants. Yet in nature I would speculate that bearded species are more likely found among the rocks. They are truly rock garden plants! Why would they choose such environments? First we all know that bearded iris like good drainage, so rocky slopes are perfect. We know that iris go through midsummer dormancy. Although they prefer to dry out during this period, different climates experience relative degrees of dryness.

One summer I had a relatively new bed of SDBs. The weather was hot, dry, and water restrictions were in effect. The SDBs looked sad. I decided the bed would be more attractive with gravel mulch around the plants. The gravel I spread was less than an half inch thick and a quarter inch in pebble size and I only put it down one to two layers thick. Within a week the SDBs were putting out fresh leaves even though we still had not had rain. When I scraped the gravel back the soil had retained some moisture while neighboring areas were powder dry. The gravel as a topdressing also gave a clean look to the garden. It discouraged some weeds but some persisted in germinating between the pebbles. Nonetheless a little stirring would dislodge their roots and they quickly dried and disappeared.

A large rock can also moderate temperature changes. I can remember seeing an alpine meadow in Colorado where each boulder had a ring of flowers around it whereas those between had not progressed in growth. Altogether a plant growing next to a rock can benefit from less heat or cold, better drainage, and a more consistent moisture level. Anyone for a rock garden? 

Siberian Irises

A brief and selective history of the plants and the people

By Bob Hollingworth, Michigan

The Siberian irises commonly grown today are a perfect example of a meeting of east and west in early globalization. *I. sibirica* (please note that the name is NOT *I. siberica*) has been grown in European gardens for centuries, but little is known of the early history of the sources, selections and improvements. It grows in a wide swath of territory from the northern areas of Europe towards, but not actually in, Siberia. It is characterized by tall flower stalks, a high bud count, and smallish flowers. *I. sanguinea* was similarly domesticated in Japan and, although known in Europe in the 18th century, it seems only to have become of garden interest in Europe and the U.S. when cultivars were brought from Japan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It grows across northern Asia, including Siberia, has larger flowers than *I. sibirica* but fewer buds, and the flowers are held on shorter stems quite close to the foliage. One of these collected “sanguineas”, ‘**Snow Queen**’, introduced by Peter Barr in 1900, is still widely sold, although it is anyone’s guess if the current variety really corresponds to the collected variety. Although both species can still be grown in the garden to good effect today, it is the combination of the two that has led to most of the current Siberian cultivars and to an increasing range of forms and colors. These species and their subsequent derivatives are members of the 28-chromosome group of Siberians. It should not go without mention that a second and very attractive group currently classified as Siberians have 40 chromosomes, but these are more restricted in range, thriving primarily in the Pacific Northwest, and they do not readily interbreed with the 28-chromosome group.

Among others, the famous English plantsman Amos Perry is believed to have interbred the two species in the early 1900s, and some of these cultivars such as ‘**Perry’s Blue**’ are still available, at least in name; ‘**Perry’s Pygmy**’ originally described as blooming as a dwarf, now seems to grow to 40” in some catalogs! F. Cleveland Morgan in Canada also made the cross of *I. sibirica* x *I. sanguinea* (Nigrescens x Blue King) and in 1931 came up with ‘**Caesar’s Brother**’. This most remarkable survivor, which in important ways still epitomizes Siberian

irises, continues to be widely available commercially (again one can doubt that everything sold under that name is true to the original). '**Caesar's Brother**' also has the distinction of growing well and flowering at something like a normal height in the warmer parts of the continental US where most Siberians struggle.


'**White Swirl**', grown from a "bushel basket of seed pods" by Fred Casebeer and introduced in 1957 forever changed the form of Siberians by having flaring, rounded, and gently ruffled falls rather than the pendant form typical of the species. It has been so influential in breeding Siberians that it received the rarely given AIS Board of Directors award in 1987 as an iris of great merit that never won the Dykes medal. Its genes are everywhere in subsequent Siberian cultivars.

Two other important advances were introduced by Currier McEwen in the 1970s. The first innovation was the production of the first tetraploid Siberians ('**Orville Fay**' and '**Fourfold White**', both introduced in 1970) created through the use of colchicine to double the chromosome numbers. This created larger and often brighter flowers, but had the unfortunate effect of muddying the waters about how we refer to this group of 28-chromosome Siberians. The tetraploids have 56-chromosomes, but the term 28-chromosome Siberians still is the most useful way to characterize them – in this case just don't do the math with the tetraploids. Since then, diploids and tetraploids have more or less co-existed and both types have their proponents (though you don't have to choose) and both regularly win the AIS Morgan-Wood Medal. Currier's other innovation was the introduction of the first truly yellow Siberian, '**Butter and Sugar**' (1977), produced by line breeding from the very faint yellow colors seen in some white Siberians. Now bright yellow Siberians (amoenas and bitones) are not a novelty and the combinations of this yellow with the red-violet and lavender shades of existing Siberians is producing some delicious spicy shades of caramel, coffee, cinnamon and chestnut that beautifully expands the color palette of the group (e.g. see the remarkable Schafer-Sacks seedlings in the January 2007 AIS Bulletin).

One of the greatest charms of Siberians is the wide range of forms now available, and the recent advent of 6-fall cultivars e.g. '**Six Love**' (Hollingworth 05) and multipetal types e.g. '**Kaboom**' (Bauer/Coble 01) has added to this variety, although it can alarm traditionalists. These mutant flower forms, also commonly seen with the Japanese irises, are derived from wild variants of *I. sanguinea* collected in Japan.

I. typhifolia, the third member of the trio of 28-chromosome Siberians, is a latecomer to the Siberian iris gene pool. Although it was described in 1934 from northern regions of China, it was not

available to hybridizers in the West until the late 1980s. *I. typhifolia* breeds readily with others in the group and its main contribution so far has been to significantly increase the earliness of Siberians since it blooms 2-3 weeks ahead of the main display and well ahead of the TBs. Recent introductions with *I. typhifolia* parentage such as 'China Spring' (Bauer/Coble 99) express this earliness and notably extend the range of Siberian bloom.


Recognizing the increasing interest in these irises and the potential for further breeding advances, in 1959 a rather distinguished group of irisarians got together under the leadership of Peg Edwards to form the Society for Siberian Irises which was accepted as a section of the AIS at the Portland national meeting in 1960. The original 23 members included Bee Warburton, Ben Hager, Bill McGarvey, Fred Cassebeer and Sarah Tiffney – a golden age of knowledgeable, talented and opinionated founders indeed. Now SSI has over 500 members and in 2009 we shall celebrate its golden jubilee. The SSI's publication, *The Siberian Iris*, was first produced in 1961 and is still going strong. The first convention devoted solely or primarily to Siberian iris was organized in Michigan in 1993 and we have held one approximately every 3 years since, with the next to be hosted by the Iris Society of Minnesota in 2009 (www.irismn.org/convention.html). If you would like to learn more about Siberians and see many photos of past, current, and future introductions, including the new colors and forms, check out the SSI website at www.socsib.org. 

AIS Insurance

Michelle Snyder, Insurance Chair

For those of you who do not already know, our Liability Insurance is now with a new insurance company. If Certificates of Insurance are needed, I have made it much easier to obtain the needed documents.

To obtain Certificates of Insurance go to www.irises.org/insurance.htm and click on the text Request for Certificates of Insurance. Download the form, complete it as necessary, and fax it to the number shown.

As always, if there are any problems associated with obtaining the needed Certificate, or if you have any questions in general regarding insurance, please contact me at either (928) 282-5867, or my email address of sammygiz@aol.com. 

Walker Ross

The Iris and the Man

By Chuck Chapman, Ontario

The story of the iris '**Walker Ross**' (Ross/Chapman 98) is one that needs to be told. The iris is an arilbred (OGB-, 30") and hybridized by the late Walker Ross of Burlington, Ontario, Canada. Ross was a long-time Canadian Iris Society member, a member of the CIS board and an active amateur hybridizer. Although he hybridized many irises and the CIS trophy for best seedling has his name engraved in numerous spots, he never registered nor introduced any of his seedlings with the American Iris Society. To him, his irises were always less than perfect and therefore not quite good enough to register.

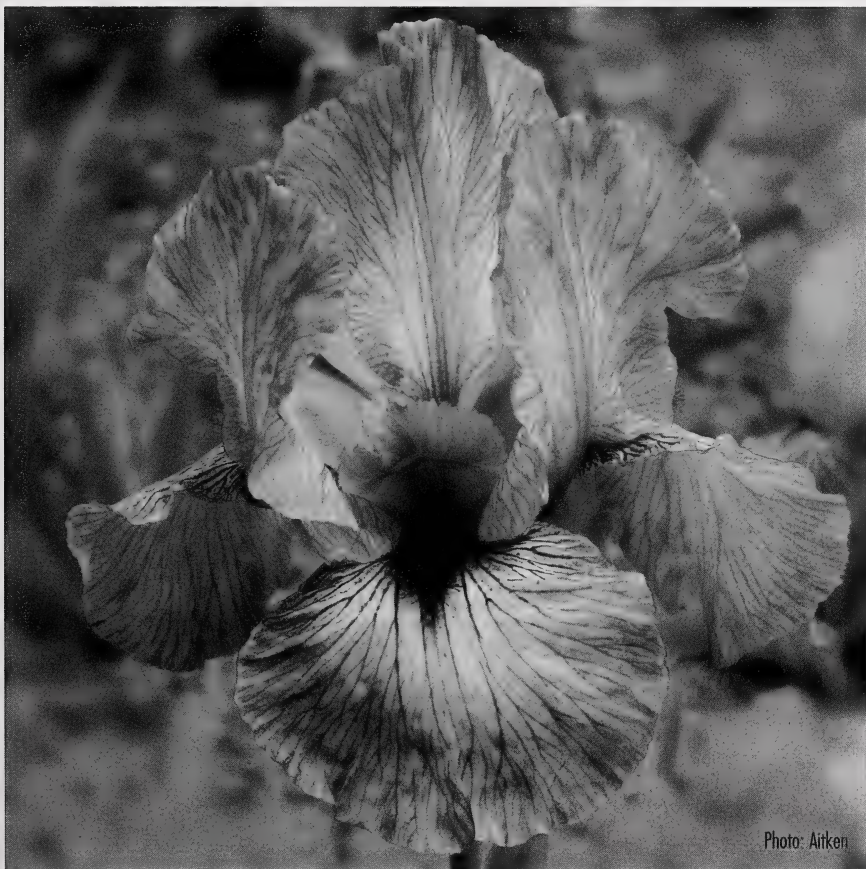
That changed when his seedling SW-W13 bloomed in its maiden year. Many CIS people fell in love with it. It was a superior flower from the beginning, and I begged Walker for a piece of it. The flower is very large and globular inheriting this feature from the oncocyclus portion of its oncogelia breeding. The dramatic dark violet blue veins on a white ground probably came from its pod parent 'Spinning Wheel'. The picture was completed with the flower's striking near-black beards.

Shortly after initial bloom, Ross had a stroke that left him in a wheelchair, but otherwise okay. He continued to work in his garden from his wheelchair and by sitting on the ground. He was no longer able to enter his flowers in the annual show, a fact which he accepted stoically. He had been an avid exhibitor and had usually brought many stalks to our shows. I remember him bringing a small camping trailer to previous shows to transport his flower stalks. By 1992 I had a good stalk of his seedling SW-W13 and brought it to the local show and entered it in his name. It won Best Seedling and the automatic High Commendation in a sanctioned AIS show. This is in itself a story, as the 1992 show was the first AIS-sanctioned Canadian show. Therefore, SW-W13 ('**Walker Ross**') became the first Canadian iris to win an HC in a Canadian show. Ross was surprised and thrilled. At the show I talked to him about registering and introducing his seedling and he agreed, with his normal reservations. A lot of these reservations were overcome by pointing out to him that he had had very good competition for best seedling in 1992.

That fall Walker had further health problems and passed away. His wife Vivian agreed to let me introduce his seedling and to name it after

its creator. It took a few years to build up stock as the plant was nearly lost during a move. The plant was registered with the AIS in 1996 and was introduced in 1998. Rhizomes of the plant were sent out to numerous display gardens in the USA and included with orders sent out to AIS judges. It was quickly discovered that the plant was a superb grower in all sorts of garden conditions, and less fussy than most arilbreds. It won an Honorable Mention easily in 2000. Through a misunderstanding, **'Walker Ross'** was left off the AIS ballot in 2002 and 2003. Several people noticed this, alerted me to the oversight, and petitioned the awards chairman for inclusion. The omission was corrected and **'Walker Ross'** went on the AIS ballot in 2004 and won its Award of Merit with the most votes in its class. It became eligible for the William Mohr Medal in 2006 and it won handily with 44.5% of the total votes cast.

The iris, **'Walker Ross'**, is a fitting tribute to the man Walker Ross and important in the history of the Canadian Iris Society. 🌸



'Walker Ross' (Ross/Chapman 98 AB)

Happenings of Region 4

By Ginny Spoon, Virginia

The spring of 2007 was a wild one with temperatures breaking records both up and down the thermometer. There were reports of some damage around our Region from the late cold snap, but when iris bloom season came it seemed as if the gardens were as beautiful as ever. I was able to attend both the Oklahoma City National Convention and the median convention in Lincoln, Nebraska in May. The gardens in Oklahoma City were all so lovely that I hardly noticed some of the cold damage that was said to have happened. The gardens at the median convention were hit much harder but were beautiful none the less. All the gardeners worked so hard to clean up from the freeze damage and although the bloom was there, it was much reduced. I returned to Virginia just in time for our club's spring show and it was a lovely show with over 100 stalks. The next day we had our Regional meeting in Baltimore, Maryland and we were fortunate to see many of the gardens that were on tour at the York Convention in 2002. We were especially fortunate to be able to visit the Rebert's garden. Doris and her family were there to greet us and all of us felt that Owings was looking down from heaven and giving us that wonderful smile.

Roy Epperson gave us garden training in the Rebert's garden and taught us how to point score an iris. However, he said that all our scores were too high! We have a popularity vote similar to that at the national convention called the Nearpass Award, and the iris that won was **'Love at First Sight'** (07, TB) by Griffin Crump. First runner up was **'Grape Harvest'** (05, TB) by Don Spoon. Another award given was for the best seedling, and was won by Anita Moran for an *Iris versicolor* with the garden name of "Pond Angel" (02Vsu01).

Rick Tasco was our guest speaker. We had a lot of fun with Rick as he came on the tours with us. The best specimen of show at the Regional was won by **'Little John'** (Spoon 96, TB) exhibited by Sharon Galloway. There was also a clump of **'Little John'** in the Rebert's garden that must have had 20 stalks in bloom. Some of my favorite clumps of tall bearded irises on the tour were: **'Carefree Days'** (Crump 04), **'Royal Sterling'** (Keppel 05), **'Santa Was Here'** (Niswonger 05), **'Saturday Night Live'** (Schreiner 96) and **'Sky and Sun'** (Spoon 99). My favorite Siberians were: **'Dirigo Black Velvet'** (White 99), **'Banish Misfortune'** (Schafer/Sacks 99) and **'Neat Trick'** (White 97), a broken color.

After the Regional we stopped by to see Jane Hamelink's garden. She is one of our club members and I have wanted to see her garden for the past three years and since it was on the way home, we just couldn't resist. Jane has over 1,000 different cultivars planted all around her lovely home, in her front yard, around the swimming pool, around the stables and even around the chicken house! What a treat to see such a sight. All her irises had their name tags and were grown to their best. She said her method was to dig deeply and put down chicken manure in the bottom. After planting she mulched with single shredded bark about one inch deep. 🌸



'Carefree Days' (Crump 04 TB)

A Friend Indeed


By Paul W. Gossett, Oklahoma

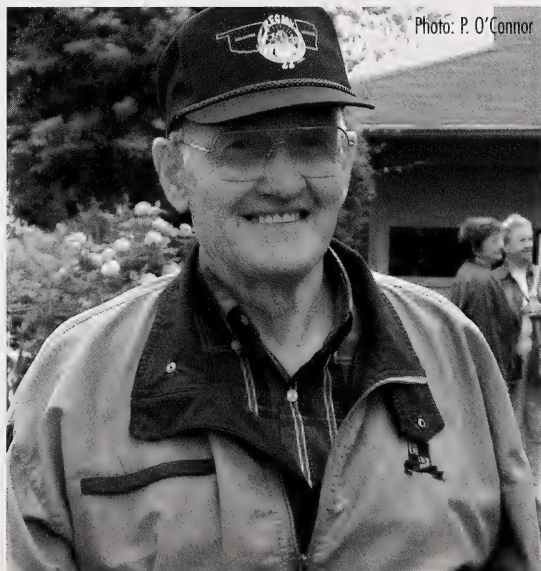
The 2007 Mary Swords Debaillon Medal winner is '**My Friend Dick**' chosen and introduced by M. D. Faith of Searcy, Arkansas. The iris was named for his friend Richard Butler.

The AIS Checklist gives the following description of the iris:
MY FRIEND DICK (Richard Butler by M. D. Faith, R. 1998), Sdlg. RCB#1. LA, 35" (89 cm), M "Currant red, bold golden yellow signal. Ann Chowning X self. Faith 2000."

There is a story that goes along with the introduction of the iris as follows.

In the spring of 1993 M.D. read in the newspaper about an iris show to be held in Little Rock, Arkansas. He and his wife June loaded up and made the 50 mile trip to the show. He was impressed with the show and the irises, but it was his meeting Henry Rowlan and Richard Butler that made the trip a memorable and lasting experience for him. Meeting these two men really changed M.D.'s direction for both of them were adamant Louisiana iris growers and hybridizers. Both men shared seedlings with M.D., which he has used in his hybridizing program.

The friendship with Richard Butler got him several seedlings, one of which after growing it and observing it for several years became '**My Friend Dick**'. Richard Butler was not going to do anything with the seedling, but M. D. liked the seedling and introduced it in honor of his friend Richard Butler. That is a friend indeed. 



M. D. Faith

Climate Change

and Iris Gardening

By Robert Pries, Missouri


The heat index is 104. I sit behind my computer wondering what measures to take to protect my newly planted irises. If they were established I would simply let them alone but they are in pots so that I can move them to a new garden. If I water I run the risk of rot. If I don't they may dry up.

My decision was to lightly water just enough to cool them since thunderstorms are predicted for tonight and they may have too much water soon. As gardeners we are confronted with the worst of times. Global warming has upset the normal weather patterns and severe swings in heat and cold, as well as wet and dry are becoming more common. How can we fight back? Even though we, on a large scale, may still have a window of opportunity to reduce the causes of global warming immediately and begin to take carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere today, we will still have many years of devastating weather to deal with in the interim. Hence we need to plan our gardens with this in mind now.

The first thing an ecologist might suggest is grow native plants. But we want to grow iris. However, with the changing climates, some native plants may no longer be as well adapted to their own homes. Nonetheless there are many American species that should be considered.

The second thing an ecologist would suggest is increase your diversity. Try growing many different types of iris; desert iris might find your drought wonderful or the Louisiana irises may find your excessive rain invigorating. Try bending zones. Plants that are zone 5 may now grow in what was once zone 4.

If you grow many types of iris some may fail. But some will be a success. We may have to lower our sights on expecting everything to work, and rejoice in the unexpected successes.

Create microclimates! A small pool with water irises is a much more stable system than the garden at large. If you can maintain the water level, the water moderates temperatures and obviously drought is not a threat if you can keep water. Stones, sides of houses, and large trees can all create special areas that protect in some ways. Good traditional gardening practices can also help. Well-drained beds (perhaps raised), fertile well-developed soil ecosystems, and crop rotation are always good tools, but may be more important than ever. Considering life is becoming more difficult maybe it is even more important to stop and smell the flowers while we still have them. 

Mysteries of Marketing Irises

By Terry Aitken, Oregon

I was asked for comments on the mysteries of marketing iris. Having marketed and purchased many different types of irises for nearly 30 years, I have picked up on several patterns of sales or awards that seem to apply to all irises. The question is – “What sells?” I’d love to hear other peoples take on this subject! This article is primarily focused on new hybridizers.

Names

A name can make or break a new introduction. Recently we introduced a plant called ‘**Got Milk**’ (Aitken 02). It is a white TB iris. Who needs another white iris? In this case timing was critical. There had just been a national campaign to promote dairy products. The ads were clever and the term “Got milk” became a positive household piece of humor. Name familiarity might be another term for this phenomenon. If this name had been used two years earlier or later, the plant may not have sold as well.

For the customer’s sake, names need to be short, easy to pronounce, easy to spell and if possible, have a positive reflection upon the plant, ie-“Dishwater Blond” will likely not sell. Some years back, I introduced an iris under the name of ‘**Pele**’ (Aitken 93, SDB) in association with the Hawaiian volcano goddess because it was a fiery orange color. I did not realize that most of North American and European iris buyers associated the name with the famous South American soccer player of that time. Accidents do happen! We named our first IB ‘**Hellcat**’ (Aitken 81). When I first saw it blooming in the seedling patch, the two tone violet blue reminded me of a flight of carrier based fighter planes from the war. I got complaining letters from little old ladies out on the prairies who did not make that connection. This game can backfire!

Descriptions

Names alone will not sell an iris. I am convinced that our veteran iris purchasers are incredibly shrewd buyers who can read between the lines of iris descriptions and figure out what information about the plant

is missing. Nothing said about bud count and branching? Obviously the plant has none. Nothing said about vigor? It is a wimp. Nothing said about health? It rots. Color saturation? It must have muddy dull color. It goes on. When you have to brag about fragrance, you know something is missing. This will not apply to beardless irises.

Color Photos

I cannot overemphasize the importance of a good color picture. Many written descriptions of color or form are very difficult to imagine. “Yellow with ruffles” can mean many different things to different people. In my digital images, I have been struck by the great difference in flower color and form when taken in 2 year clumps as opposed to one year clumps. I think this phenomenon applies to all perennials. It often takes two years to develop the character that the flower should have.

Distribution

I have often heard that you can win awards or make money selling iris, but not both. I don't think this is entirely true. One pattern that I have picked up on is plant vigor. If a plant exhibits exceptional (aggressive or rampant?) vigor, once it has left home, it will redistribute itself amongst irisarians. Judges will see it and some may vote for it. It still has to exhibit all of the qualities of an award winner. Once a plant begins to receive recognition in the awards system, other judges will pick up on it to evaluate for themselves. You may fool a judge once but don't expect it to work again. Here is where reputation sets in. It is the policing agent of the iris world.

Reputation

Reputation of the hybridizer will outlive any accidental success or failure. If a hybridizer puts an inferior plant out on the market, the word gets around. It may take five years to live down a mistake. That is your reputation. Many times, I have heard hybridizers say “How come my plants don't sell?” Some hybridizers are dependable enough that you can buy “sight unseen” and you can expect to get a good plant. Other hybridizers are not so lucky to be the receivers of such good customer fortune.

Tired Buyers

Many people comb through catalogs making up wish lists. Then they go back through and delete until they hit the desired budget number. I do it! I am convinced that some people just run out of money or patience before they get to the end of the alphabet. We try to name our plants near the front of the alphabet. I cannot quantify this trick.

There are notable exceptions such as the Zebra Garden series which seem to take on a life of their own.

Uniqueness

When an appealing new color comes along which combines all of the other good qualities of an iris plant, I will find room for it in my garden by removing the most “ordinary” iris from the garden. To look at an iris and state that it is “ordinary” means it is headed for the compost pile. We do not breed for quantity. We want uniqueness and quality in new plants from anybody.

Color

I once had a person ask me if I had noticed one of their irises. I replied no. They said “Well, it looks exactly like ‘*So and so*’ except that the pollen color is different”. Enough said. Uniqueness along with other good qualities will find a place in a backyard garden. We seem to have a tough time selling yellows early in the season with bearded irises. My theory is that after yellow daffodils, and other early spring bloomers have finished, we’re ready for something different. I cannot claim that to be the case with Louisianas since they follow the bearded iris season. Actually, I am inclined to think that many of the finest LAs are the yellows. It has to do with wonderful broad form, great substance and superb color saturation. Only an extended bloom season can top that!

Extended Bloom Season

I cannot tell you how often I have heard the expression “too bad they only bloom for such a short time!” I am convinced that when we come up with an iris that blooms all summer, people will beat a path to our door. It works with orchids, roses and daylilies. It will work with irises. Obviously, climate may have something to say about that, either the heat of summer or the frosts of winter. Dream on! Treat them like houseplants. I have had iris blooming in pots in February!

What is the conclusion? I see a pattern amongst the profitable winners. Full, overlapping form, add some detail with beards or signals and ruffles, then throw in superb color saturation which is, hopefully, somewhat different from similar plants already on the market. Superior vigor and floriferousness is hard to beat. Then have a good picture. Amongst the Louisianas, **‘Jacaranda Lad’** (Pryor 96) is a great favorite. Unique soft pink style arms couched in a field of blue-lavender petals looks exquisite. Combine that with incredible vigor and you have a sure fire winner. **‘For Dad’** (Pryor 96) expresses wide overlapping falls, breathtaking intense yellow saturation, and obvious, heavy substance.

The promise of rebloom has not yet been realized but the tantalizing prospect is there. **'Red Velvet Elvis'** (Vaughn 96) is showing rampant growth which allows us to keep up with sales. I love the name **'Tomato Bisque'** (Morgan 84) and I smile each time I walk by. Names like **'Ginny's Choice'** (Rudkin 03) and **'Arrows'** (Dunn/Ghio 98) give new meaning to the value of sharp signal patterns. **'Hail Mary'** (Dunn/Ghio 99) is a great name for football fans and for gardeners alike. Remarkable red-brown color saturation combines with lively ruffles which show off the yellow reverse petal color. **'Audition'** (Taylor 98) gives us a wonderful rich violet with the beginnings of a deeper plicata band on the falls.

There will always be a place in the garden for that illusive dimension called quality. We struggle to determine just what that is. It is an inspiring search of our own soul and the wonderful plants that we love. Enjoy the journey. 🌸



'Ginny's Choice' (Rudkin '05, LA)

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January 2007 – September 2007

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A Beardless Iris Rebloom Hypothesis

By Terry Aitken, Washington

For many years we have enjoyed an extended bloom season on our Siberian and Japanese irises in the Portland/Vancouver area. Probably the latest bloom we had occurred in a year when we were moving an acre of plants and some stray pieces of Siberian plants got left behind. They were not watered, fertilized, or weeded but they remained in bloom well into August. I thought this was "normal" for Siberians to perform this way. It was not until we started growing Marky Smith's Siberians that we became aware that rebloom was a unique feature in our area. In the second year of growth in our yard, '**Haleakala**' (Smith 06, SIB) remained in bloom from mid-May until early August. When we told Marky, she said she had never seen extended bloom on '**Haleakala**' in her garden east of the mountains. We began to speculate on what environmental conditions could be responsible for this variation in plant behavior.

Marky lives in Yakima, Washington on the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains approximately 100 miles east of Portland as the crow flies. Temperatures there run much hotter in summer and much colder in winter. Our garden lies to the west in the Willamette Valley between the Cascade Mountains and the Coast range with much Pacific Ocean influence, cool nights, and a coastal marine climate. Our soils are subject to leaching from heavy rains whereas Marky's soils are much drier. Our soils, on the wet side of the mountains, are pH 5.3 to 5.8 (our city water is well water at pH 6) whereas Marky's soils on the dry side are pH 7, not enough difference to affect Siberian growth.


I tried to come up with a hypothesis as to why a Siberian iris would rebloom in one climate (the wet side of the mountains) and not in another (the dry side of the mountains) in Washington state. I obtained a soil (compost) thermometer and stuck it in the middle of our Siberian field. It penetrated about 12" deep into the root zone of the Siberian clumps. During bloom season in May, the soil temperature was constant at 60 degrees. Rebloom continued through June and on into late July. Our soil temperature remained at 60 degrees. Then in late July, we had a heat wave with air temperatures near 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 C.).

Soil temperature rose to 68 degrees. Rebloom stopped.

Only a few specific clones seem to rebloom or respond to these environmental conditions. **'Coronation Anthem'** (Hollingworth 90, SIB) is the grand champion with **'Majestic Overture'** (Aitken 06, SIB) right behind. Marky Smith's **'Haleakala'** runs neck and neck. **'Devil's Dream'** (Schafer/Sacks 90, SIB), **'Careless Sally'** (Schafer/Sacks 96, SIB), and **'Reddy or Not'** (Aitken 01, SIB) all put on a reliable display. Most of these will bloom for two to three months until the soil heats up.

This may be useful information for people trying to grow Siberians and Japanese irises in warmer climates. To keep soils cool, use several inches of mulch (wood shavings are good because they stay loose). Applications of irrigation water that is cool might be helpful. Evaporation of water in the wood shavings would also have a cooling influence. Half day shade is also a cooling influence. Avoiding solar heat by utilizing north facing slopes helps to encourage rebloom as well.

Chad Harris, living in the Columbia River Gorge, has had similar luck keeping Japanese irises in bloom almost all summer. In his case, he is watering heavily with cool, mountain spring water which may be keeping the soil temperature down for the Japanese irises. He also mulches heavily with compost, which would prevent solar heating of the soil on his south facing slope.

It would appear to be a coincidence that we happen to live in a climate that allows rebloom to occur naturally. A by-product of this phenomenon is that we can work on breeding Siberians and Japanese irises in the more relaxed days following bearded iris bloom season using, exclusively, those Siberian and Japanese varieties that grace our fields during June and July. Of course, we are then selecting seedlings which also exhibit extended bloom. Perhaps, someday, this feature will become strong enough to delight gardeners in more diverse climates. 

See Photos Pages 54 and 55

AIS SLIDE RENTALS AND DIGITAL PROGRAMS

The American Iris Society Slide Set Menu

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words. If you want to create an interesting and educational meeting, an AIS slide set may provide the atmosphere you desire, and stimulate your chapter's interest. If you want a current list or need suggestions for your program please e-mail me. Requests for slide sets should be made well in advance.

To Order: Requests for specific slide sets should be made well in advance, preferably four to six weeks. Please request alternate choices. Clearly print your name, address, phone number, and date of meeting if you mail your request by regular mail.

If you have an emergency situation and need slides immediately: **CALL ME!**

Only one set is allowed per request date. Slides are to be returned by Priority Mail the day after viewing.

Cost: The rental fee is \$10, payable to AIS, and mailed to the address below. Affiliate Chapters are entitled to one free set per year.

Avery Poling

17210 N. Calico Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373-2202

(623) 815-3503 <AZbeeman@aol.com>

Irises of: 1980s, 1990, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003

Bearded Irises

Beardless Irises

AIS National Conventions of: 2001, 2002, 2003

The Iris Family

Trivia

The following programs are available for purchase (\$10) in CD form:

New Introductions for: 2003, 2004

Conventions: 2003, 2004

The Iris Family

Iris Trivia (Not available on CD): This is a small set with questions that can be used for fun and informative meetings. It takes about an hour (per set average), using the slides, asking the questions and getting audience response. E-mail for further details.

The Family Iris (Available as Slide Program or CD): This set is an introduction to the world of iris. It shows the different classes of bearded iris and the different species of iris. It can be used for all levels of viewers, new to experienced iris growers. Great for garden club programs.

To rent slide sets or to purchase CDs, contact:

Avery Poling; 17210 N. Calico Drive; Sun City, AZ 85373-2202

(623) 815-3503; AZbeeman@aol.com

AIS Storefront

Sale Items & Publications

The World of Irises

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 494 pages. \$15.00
Quantity discounts: 20% off for 10 or more / 40% off for 100 or more

Handbook for Judges and Show Officials

New release! Seventh Edition ©2007. Insert (new pages) \$12.00.
Insert w/cover \$15.00

Basic Iris Culture. Booklets. Great information for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows. \$1.50 ea., or 25 for \$15.00 domestic/\$20.00 overseas

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Publications now available through the AIS Storefront:

The Louisiana Iris, The Taming of a Native American Wildflower, Second Edition, \$30.00 (includes S&H).

The Eric Nies Chronicle, \$25 domestic/\$32 international

New Publications:

Year 2006 Registrations and Introductions

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2008 Iris Calendar

\$6.00 each, or package of 10 for \$33.00 domestic/ \$40.00 international.

View Before You Buy! The official AIS Website now has photos of several of the Storefront sales items, so you can see what they look like.

Go to: www.irises.org

AIS can now accept VISA & Mastercard (sorry, no other charge cards) for Storefront orders (minimum order: \$10.00). When charging your order, please include card type and number, expiration date and phone number.

Prices include postage and handling. The Storefront ships via media mail. Priority, overnight and UPS shipment charges paid by customer. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society, or include charge card information. Send order to: John and Kay Ludi
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SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Scott Jordan, 3500 Avenida Charada NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check for \$7.50 to Dwarf Iris Society.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Ron James, 887 County Route 3, Hannibal, NY 13074; <ron2don@alltel.net> Rental fee \$10.00. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check for \$5.00 to Society for Japanese Irises.

Louisiana: Donna Wolford, 2605 Oakhaven Street, Palm Bay, FL 32905; (321) 724-1676; <n8kxp@cfl.rr.com>; \$10 check to SLI.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. Check for \$5.00 to Median Iris Society (MIS). One set free per year to affiliates.

Pacific Coast Native: Contact Damon Hill, 4613 Maddock Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472-9768. Rental fee \$7.50 to SPCNI. 2 sets available, species or hybrids.

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Rebloomers: Contact George Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville, CA 93257; <info@suttoniris.com>. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

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Spurias: To order, contact Riley Probst, 418 N. Van Buren, Saint Louis, MO 63122; (314) 822-2485; <rprobst02@earthlink.net>. Check for \$10.00 to Spuria Iris Society.

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AIS Bulletin Ad Rates

“Without advertising, a terrible thing happens... nothing!”

Ad Submission Requirements

To place an ad, please contact the advertising editor. All ads must have a hard copy submitted to the advertising editor. List of specifications regarding digital submissions is available. We can not accept MS Publisher or WordPerfect files, as we do not have software to open them. Payment is due with ad copy. The deadlines for ad submissions are as follows: August 15 (October issue); November 15 (January issue), February 15 (April issue), May 15 (July issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to: George Sutton.

Shopping Section

Found in the back of each Bulletin. Placement is roughly alphabetical. Rate is for 4 issues. All ads are 2½ inch wide.

\$44.00	1 ⁵ / ₁₆ inch
\$60.00	1 1 ⁵ / ₁₆ inch
\$80.00	2 1 ⁵ / ₁₆ inch

Display Advertising (See new rates page 105)

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\$200.00 each	Full page, interior page, 4 consecutive issue discount.
\$350.00	Full page, inside back cover.
\$350.00	Full page, inside front cover.
\$450.00	Full page, outside back cover.

Note: Display Advertising rates will be rolled back to those in effect as of the July 2004 Bulletin, those rates to become effective as of the January 2008 Bulletin. Contact George & Margaret Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville, CA 93257; (559) 784-5107; <AISAdvertising@irises.org>

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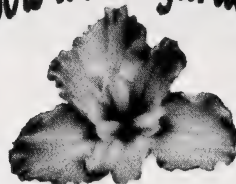
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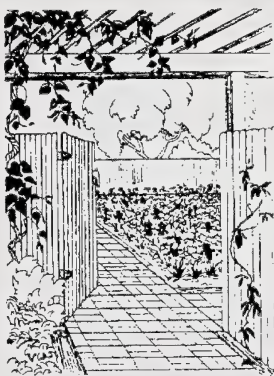
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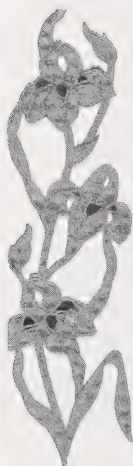
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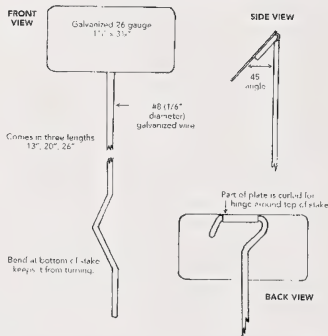
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*A View From the Garden:
The Garden of Kelly Norris*



Photo: Aitken

Above: 'Starring' (Ghio 00, TB)

Right: 'Daughter of Stars' (Spoon 01, TB)

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